Caravel behavior experts presents:

# Navigating everyday parenting challenges

Do I have to play that again?







A provider of Applied Behavior Analysis services, diagnostic, and counseling services to children with autism and their families.

We currently serve the Greater Chicago land area, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Washington and Idaho.





### We change lives.

Caravel Autism Health's team of autism health professionals is dedicated to working with children with autism and related developmental disabilities and their families to develop skills, create connections and instill confidence. Our approach to ABA therapy is rooted in research and results.

Our founders and therapists are committed to being the most passionate clinicians in the autism health field. At Caravel Autism Health, our mission is to change lives.



# **Our Presenters**

### Sarah Mehta

BCBA, Sarah graduated from SIUC in 2001 and pursued her MA in special education at NIU. She graduated in 2006 and is a certified learning behavior specialist for K-21. Knowing that there had to be another way to help individuals on the spectrum and their families, she began exploring ABA. She graduated from Ball State University in 2018 and became a BCBA in 2019. She has worked in schools, residential schools, day cares, clinics and within the home. She has a passion for functional communication training and working within the natural environment.

### Brianna Layman

Senior Therapist, Brianna graduated from MBU in 2018 and began pursuing an MS in ABA in 2019 from The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. She joined Caravel in 2018 and has a passion for helping families advocate for their child's best interest and in expanding communication and social skills through functional communication training and RFT.



### Agenda.

- 1. Discuss play milestones throughout developmental stages
- 2. Introducing parallel play: what it is, why it's important, and how to encourage it.
- 3. Introducing cooperative play: what it is, why it's important, and how to encourage it.
- 4. Introducing imagination play: what it is, why it's important, and how to encourage it.
- 5. Toy suggestions for each milestone



### Play Milestones

- Unoccupied play (birth –3 months)
  - Movement play (moving arms/legs)
  - Figuring out how their body moves
- Solitary play (birth-2yrs)
  - Early toy play by themselves
- Spectator play (2 yrs)
  - Watches other children play but doesn't join them



### Play Milestones

- Parallel play (2+ yrs)
  - Plays near other children
- Associative play (3-4yrs)
  - Beginning to interact by sharing
  - Doing an activity related to those around them
- Cooperative play (4+yrs)
  - Interest in both the other children and activity
  - Loose rules, both have input on the activity
  - Activity may change throughout the play



### Teaching and Joining Play

**Social Play** 

**Toy Play** 

- Physical play
- Imaginative play
- Competitive play

- Constructive play
- Expressive play
- Virtual/digital play



### **Introducing Parallel Play**

- Observe
- Imitate
- Narrate
  - Narration vs. Questioning



### Benefits of Parallel Play

- Starts the process of transitioning from solitary play to social play
- Helps introduce new play concepts
- Increases awareness of others in play



## **Examples of Parallel Play**



### **Examples of Parallel Play**





### **Examples of Parallel Play**



### **Introducing Cooperative Play**

- Initiate
- Ask Questions
- Follow



### Benefits of Cooperative Play

- Introduces compromise and social problem solving
- Promotes conversation skills
- Promotes social skills such as sharing and turn taking



# **Example of Cooperative Play**



### **Introducing Imagination play**

- Model how to play.
- Follow a known "script"
- Start small and make play longer more complicated.
- Follow your child's lead



### Benefits of Imagination Play

- Practicing adult activities
- Promotes flexibility
- Encourages interaction with peers
- Practices observing social cues and following social "rules"









Cause and effect toys













Toy suggestions

# Building toys



Toy suggestions

Beginning board games













Toy suggestions

Imagination play







# Questions?



# Thank you for attending today!

For more information on Caravel Autism Health and our services, please contact our intake team at: 844.583.5437

