



LEARNING AND THERAPY CORNER

BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS AND BRIGHT FUTURES



Janice Murach

Occupational Therapist

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Janice graduated from Towson State University (Towson University) in 1978 after completing her Bachelor of Science degree in Occupational Therapy. She worked her first year for Baltimore County Public Schools System, before beginning a 6 year career in rehabilitation at Montebello Rehabilitation Hospital serving ages 16 years and above. There she gained experience working with adults who suffered strokes, head injuries, burns, hand injuries and spinal cord injuries. She has experience working in home health through Johns Hopkins Hospital. Janice worked at the Hearing and Speech Agency Gateway School Level V intense program from 1990-1998. There she served children with significant speech and language problems and a variety of disabilities including autism. During her tenure at Gateway, Janice developed a program to address sensory integration and handwriting issues. She presented fine motor workshops for parents and collaborated with Speech Language Pathologist and teachers in designing a motor-language obstacle course for students to use at the start of their day.

From 1998 to 2011 Janice worked for the Howard County Public Schools System serving children birth through 9 years. She worked specifically in programs designed for toddlers and preschoolers serving children with multiple needs, poor sensory processing, poor visual-motor integration, feeding issues and autism. She has experience with academic life skills classes, as well as small group handwriting classes. Janice has also provided occupational therapy services to The Infants and Toddlers Program providing home visits to families of qualifying children for the last 6 years. She addressed the needs of a variety of diagnoses including Prematurity, Failure to Thrive, Developmental Delay, Williams Syndrome, Autism, Arthrogryposis, Cerebral Palsy and Down's Syndrome. Janice has attended workshops on Brain Gym, "Handwriting Without Tears", and The Alert Program: How Does Your Engine Run, and Integrating Sensory Integration and Neurodevelopment Treatment. She is trained in the Wilbarger Protocol for Sensory Defensiveness behaviors.

Janice received the Certificate of Appreciation by Howard County Special Education Community Advisory Committee (SECAC) in recognition of her dedication, creativity and caring shown in the education of students with disabilities in 2005, 2008, and 2009. She received an Educational Excellence award for outstanding contribution to educational excellence from the Gateway School in 1995. She has raised 3 boys and operated a daycare which allows her to bring a perspective of typical development to the clinic. She is dedicated in helping children achieve their optimal level of functioning to be successful across all environments and has experience working with families.

Janice has been a member of the American Occupational Association, Maryland Occupational Therapy Association and National Board for Certification in Occupational Therapy. She is licensed occupational therapist in the state of Maryland. She holds suitable qualifications for serving Infants and Toddlers.