



WOW Factor



Hello ABS Kids Families,

As we welcome September, we're excited to reflect on an incredible August! We hope the back-to-school transition has been smooth for your family.

This past month was filled with amazing events, milestones, and moments of connection. From team celebrations to community initiatives, August was truly one to remember.

Thank you for being part of the ABS Kids family!



Sensory Friendly Summer Breeze Bash – Riverside, CA

Family Spotlight: Salt Lake City Morris Ave

"Excelente lugar. A mi hijo le gusta ir y he estado viendo avances."
("Excellent place. My son likes to go, and I've been seeing progress.")

September Upcoming Events

September 6th

Make'm Smile NC - Gastonia, NC

ASIE Pool Party - Riverside, CA

Family Healthcare Health Fair -

St. George, UT

September 10th

Family Health and Wellness Fair -

Kaysville, UT

September 13th

Monroe Grand Opening - Monroe, NC

Run for Kid's Sake - Greenville, SC

Imagine and Jump for Autism Festival -

Clover, SC

Canyon Springs Grand Opening -

Riverside, CA

Flutie 5K - Salt Lake City, UT

September 20th

Pajama Walk & 5k - Nashville, TN

September 23rd

Sensory Friendly Evening - Rock Hill, SC

September 25th

Health and Wellness Fair - Rancho

Cucamonga, CA

September 27th

17th Annual Triad Walk/Run -

Greensboro, NC

Community Inclusion Celebration -

Chino, CA

Check out our full [community events](#) calendar on our website!



Countdown to Kindergarten - Spartanburg, SC

To Our Incredible Events Team and Volunteers

A huge THANK YOU for all the hard work, passion, and energy you pour into making our events so special. Your efforts create amazing opportunities to bring families together, build connections, and celebrate the heart of our ABS Kids community.

Make sure you check out our [community events](#) page on website to see upcoming events and get some free swag!



Uplifting Your Community

We're committed to providing events where everyone is welcome.

FREE Sensory Friendly Summer Breeze Bash, where kids can meet their local fire department and enjoy a fun, inclusive day. Events like these are also a great way to connect with resources, like the Autism Society Inland Empire.



Hear from our Psychologist

Dr. Katie Franke works with children and families to address developmental concerns, especially autism, in Columbia, South Carolina. She spends time understanding family concerns, observing the child, and providing tailored supports to aid development.

Dr. Franke's passion for psychology began in undergrad when a family member was diagnosed with autism. Witnessing her family's search for answers inspired her to bridge gaps for children with autism. She started as a BT in a day school, fell in love with ABA, and pursued her doctorate in school psychology while earning her BCBA credentials. She completed her residency at Johns Hopkins, focusing on ABA interventions.

Why ABS Kids?

Dr. Franke values ABS Kids' emphasis on early intervention and thorough evaluations, ensuring families receive the right support.

Dr. Franke conducts detailed evaluations, seeing two patients daily. She gathers developmental and medical history, works directly with the child using tools like the ADOS-2, and provides actionable steps based on results.

Advice for Parents

If you have developmental concerns, talk to your pediatrician and consider tools like the M-CHAT. Increasing face-to-face interactions can benefit all children.





Hear from One of Our BCBA's: Conor Lumley

Conor develops procedures and tracks data to help clients build communication skills and independence. While he works directly with clients occasionally, he primarily supports technicians in implementing strategies and adjusting plans based on data.

Location: Smyrna – Stonecrest, TN

With a background in psychology, Conor initially had reservations about ABA. He sought an ethical company and found ABS Kids, where he fell in love with the science. Starting as an RBT, he transitioned to the BCBA path through the [ABS Kids LAUNCH program](#), which allowed him to balance work and coursework seamlessly.

Why He Loves Being a BCBA

Conor enjoys the analytical side of ABA, where data-driven progress is visible both on paper and in real life.

Impactful Moments

Conor has presented ABA strategies to Nashville teachers and started a mock preschool at the center. One of his most rewarding experiences was seeing a client he worked with for years make significant progress, to the point where a doctor no longer sees a need for services.

Advice for New BTs

“Don’t stress about being perfect. Mistakes happen, but as long as you follow the ethics code and listen to your supervisor, you’re doing great!”

Celebrating Emilio Trinidad's Published Book!

We're thrilled to share some exciting news! One of our very own talented RBTs, Emilio Trinidad, has written and published an incredible book!

This well-written and fun read is all about the importance of kindness, and we couldn't be prouder of Emilio's accomplishment.

Congratulations, Emilio, on this amazing achievement!



Introducing the M-CHAT: A Free Autism Screening Tool

At ABS Kids, we're dedicated to helping families take meaningful steps toward understanding and supporting their child's development. That's why we're excited to launch the Modified Checklist for Autism in Toddlers (M-CHAT) a free, research-backed screening tool now available on our website.

What Is the M-CHAT?

The M-CHAT is a 20-question, scientifically validated tool designed to detect early signs of autism in toddlers aged 16- to 30-months. Developed by Dr. Diana Robins, a leading expert in early autism detection, the M-CHAT assesses key developmental areas like eye contact, social engagement, and communication. Results are delivered instantly, along with actionable next steps.

Why Early Screening Matters

Early detection is critical, as toddlers' brains are especially adaptable before age three. Identifying developmental differences early allows for timely intervention, helping children build foundational skills in communication, social connection, and emotional regulation.



Episode #210

Early Autism Detection & Support Strategies | with Dr. Diana Robins

Dr. Diana Robins, professor and director at the AJ Drexel Autism Institute. Renowned for her work on early autism detection and the development of the M-CHAT. Dr. Robins has helped countless families access earlier diagnoses and crucial interventions.

[Visit our website and check out latest blog on M-Chat to learn more!](#)

Check out our latest Blogs!



[The Benefits of Fitness for Autistic Children with David Geslak](#)



[Understanding ABA Treatment Intensity: What Parents Need to Know](#)



[The Parent's Checklist for a Smooth School Year Transition](#)

Celebrating National Book Day!

Books have a unique way of inspiring growth; whether it's through a favorite childhood story, a book that shifted your perspective, or one that simply brought a smile to your face.

What's one book that's made an impact on your journey?



Building Little Moments Into Big Breakthroughs



One of our kiddos in CA is shining bright and expressing their creative side!

This week, they had an exciting breakthrough, creating something with Playdoh for the first time! They also sat and played for an incredible 15 minutes, their longest session yet.

Moments like these remind us of the amazing progress our kiddos can achieve. Way to go!



Thank you for your feedback!

We're excited to share some positive words from our ABS Kids families.

Temecula Parkway

Very caring and professional. They keep me updated often and are extremely supportive. I look forward to our weekly planning sessions. I'm excited to be working with such a great team and look forward to the future with them.

Smyrna Stonecrest

ABS Kids has been a lifesaver for our family! My grandson was so lucky to be part of this organization. They do everything possible to help the children succeed and serve as a lifeline for parents and families. I don't know what we would have done without them.

Gastonia Cox

My daughter has been attending for a month now and still arrives at the door every day super excited to return. I was initially worried about the amount of time required for her to be there, but they worked with me and my daughter to gradually ease her into the program. She absolutely loves the lady she's been assigned to. I've already noticed calmer behaviors at home and improved ability to follow directions.

They work one-on-one with parents to educate and coach us on helpful tactics for understanding children on the spectrum. I'm so happy I found this place. Everyone is so involved and kind. I also love the design of the facility, it's an open floor plan with loads of sunshine and natural light, which my child loves. It's well-kept and clean, too.

WHAT'S YOUR WOW

CHECK OUT
WOW MOMENTS
FROM AUGUST!



Miriam Rodriguez

Hi! I'm the Center Support Specialist from Broadway Center in San Diego. Ever since I started working here, I have bought stickers for the kiddos that come into our center. Now, every morning I'm greeted by the sweetest little faces running up to my desk, eager to pick out their favorite stickers.

It's the best part of my day! Sometimes, those stickers work a little magic—helping a child calm down after a tough moment or turning tears into smiles. Seeing their excitement and progress reminds me how lucky I am to be part of their journey!

CHECK OUT ANOTHER
WOW MOMENT
ENTRY FROM AUGUST



Mia Lucia

My name is Mia Lucia Dougé. Some "WOW" moments that I had with my clients are when we work together to complete activities together and progress more independently on their own successfully. With a cheerful smile and encouragement, anything is possible. Another wow moment was seeing the consistent progress with a shiny attitude from the week before that to the week now.

I become so inspired by how our clients persevere through their challenges with grit, taking their time, and having the courage to learn with ABS Kids. The best wow moment is the client's behavior towards their families and how it affects them in a positive way and that could be such a beautiful impact to ABS Kids!

Visit our [Careers Page](#) to find your own WOW moments!

[Contact ABS Kids to learn more about our services!](#)