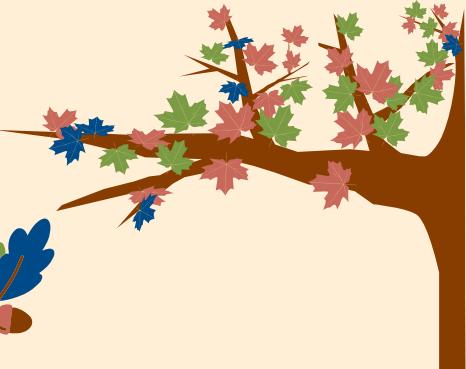




# WOW Factor



Hello ABS Kids Family!

November was an exciting month, and we're so grateful for the opportunity to support your amazing kiddos! We're also thrilled to announce the upcoming grand opening of our new center in Rancho Cucamonga, CA, on December 13th; we can't wait to expand our services and welcome more families into the ABS Kids community.

As we head into December, we're embracing the holiday spirit and looking forward to creating more special moments together. Thank you for being part of the ABS Kids family; your trust and partnership mean the world to us!

Check out November recap below!



## December Events

**5**  
Dec [Pajama Jam w/ Santa  
Columbia, SC](#)

**6**  
Dec [Santa's Winter Wonderland  
Fort Mill, SC](#)

**6**  
Dec [Santa's Winter Wonderland  
Huntersville, NC](#)

**6**  
Dec [Sensory Friendly Quiet Santa  
St. George, UT](#)

**6**  
Dec [Quiet Magic of Christmas  
Grantsville, UT](#)

**10**  
Dec [Nashville Holiday Roundtable  
Nashville, TN](#)

**13**  
Dec [Santa's Winter Wonderland  
Holly Springs, NC](#)

**13**  
Dec [Santa's Winter Wonderland -  
Greenville, SC](#)

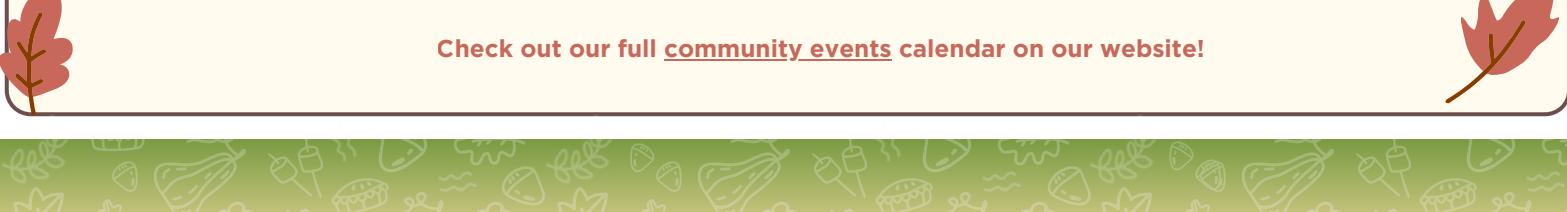
**13**  
Dec [Winter Wonderland \(The  
Children's Museum of the  
Upstate\) - Greenville, SC](#)

**13**  
Dec [Sensory Friendly Winter  
Wonderland - Rancho  
Cucamonga, CA \(Grand  
Opening\)](#)

**13**  
Dec [Quiet Magic of Christmas  
Bountiful, UT](#)

**14**  
Dec [Gather & Glow - ASIE  
Holiday Party](#)

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



## Community Spotlight: Holly Springs, NC Autism Acceptance Day



This month, our team had the incredible opportunity to come together and support Autism Acceptance Day in Holly Springs, NC. The event was a beautiful reminder of the power of community, compassion, and connection.

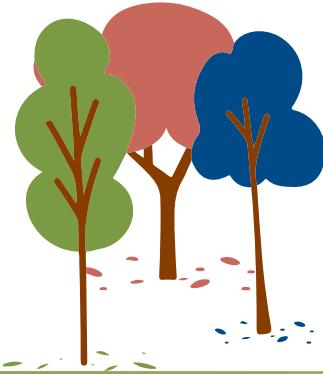


A huge thank you to everyone who participated, shared smiles, and helped make this day so special. Your dedication to uplifting others and spreading joy is what makes our community truly extraordinary.

## Spirit Day Spotlight: Jersey Day

Our centers were full of team spirit during Jersey Day! From favorite sports teams to creative custom jerseys, everyone brought their A-game to celebrate. It was amazing to see the enthusiasm and camaraderie across our ABS Kids family.

Check out these fun pictures from Jersey Day and see how we stay engaged with our amazing team—because at ABS Kids, we believe in making it a fun place to work and play!



2025

### The Role of a Psychologist in Your Autism Journey

This blog explores what our psychologists do, why their role is so important, and how they partner with you to ensure everyone has the tools they need to thrive.

**ABS Kids**

### Celebrating World Kindness Month: A Story of Understanding, Autism, and a 9-Year-Old Author

At ABS Kids, we believe that kindness starts with understanding—and what better time to celebrate that than during World Kindness Month? This year, we're spotlighting an inspiring story from one of our own and her 9-year-old son, who recently wrote a book about autism.

Check out our latest Blogs!



A huge shoutout to our amazing Terra Vista team for working with our kiddos during their gingerbread activities! Your patience, creativity, and enthusiasm made the day so special.



# Holiday TIPS



The holiday season is a time for joy, but it can also bring unique challenges for families navigating autism. Here are a few tips to make the season more inclusive and enjoyable for everyone:

- **Create Sensory-Friendly Traditions:** Opt for low-key activities like a cozy movie night, holiday crafts, or a quiet drive to see festive lights.
- **Plan Ahead:** Use social stories or visual schedules to prepare for gatherings and help set expectations.
- **Inclusive Gift-Giving:** Involve your child in the gift-giving process by letting them help pick out or wrap presents. Consider sensory-friendly gifts like weighted blankets or toys that match their interests.
- **Flexible Mealtimes:** Include your child's favorite familiar foods alongside traditional dishes, and keep mealtimes pressure-free to focus on togetherness.

For more ideas and detailed tips, check out our latest blog, [\*\*Celebrate Your Way: Autism-Friendly Holiday Tips for Families!\*\*](#) It's packed with helpful insights to make this season bright and meaningful for your family.

**Happy Holidays from all of us at ABS Kids!**

[\*\*Check out our latest Holiday Blog\*\*](#)

**Spread Holiday Cheer with Us!**

Click the link to print our [\*\*festive holiday sweater coloring page\*\*](#) and let your creativity shine! Once you've finished your masterpiece, drop it off at your center along with a holiday wish to share the joy with our ABS Kids family.

Let's fill our centers with colorful cheer and warm wishes this season!



# Hear from One of Our BCBA's

Meet Angie Milena Suarez Reyes, Assistant Director of ABA Services at ABS Kids in Smyrna, Tennessee. With a passion for leadership and a deep commitment to supporting families, Milena brings a unique perspective to her role as a BCBA.

## A Journey to ABA

Originally from Colombia, Milena discovered ABA after moving to the U.S., where she was inspired by the opportunities it provides to support children and families. Through ABS Kids, she completed her RBT training and earned her master's degree, falling in love with the field along the way. Her dedication to equitable services led her to join the DEIB committee, where she advocates for inclusive care for all families.



## The Heart of Her Work

Milena's approach centers on listening and collaboration. She emphasizes the importance of understanding each family's unique needs and tailoring parent training to ensure success at home and beyond. Whether it's toilet training, daily living skills, or school readiness, Milena works closely with families to provide the tools and support they need to help their children thrive.

## WOW Moments

For Milena, the most rewarding moments come from seeing children overcome challenges and achieve milestones. From helping a child maintain their school placement to teaching a child to brush their teeth independently, these victories are a testament to the power of teamwork and individualized care.

## Why ABA at ABS Kids?

Milena believes in creating a safe, fun, and structured environment where children can learn and grow. By collaborating with families, schools, and other providers, she ensures that progress made in the center translates to success in everyday life. Her passion for leadership and clinical care drives her to mentor others and make a lasting impact on the families she serves.



Milena's dedication to empowering families and fostering growth embodies the mission of ABS Kids. We're proud to have her as part of our team!



## Hear from our Psychologist

**Dr. Kelsey Klindt, a clinical psychologist at ABS Kids in North Carolina, is passionate about helping families better understand their children and providing the tools they need to thrive. With years of experience in autism evaluations, she brings a compassionate and personalized approach to every family she works with.**

### The Power of Evaluations

Dr. Klindt sees evaluations as more than just a diagnosis; they're an opportunity to uncover a child's unique strengths and challenges. Through in-depth caregiver interviews and playful interactions with children, she gathers valuable insights into how they connect, cope, and navigate the world. This process helps families gain clarity and equips them with actionable steps to support their child's development.

### Building Connections Through Play

Play is at the heart of Dr. Klindt's approach. Whether it's putting a toy on her head or being silly to grab a child's attention, she uses play to create a comfortable, low-stress environment. These moments allow her to observe how children interact with both familiar faces, like their caregivers, and new ones, like herself. This playful approach not only puts children at ease but also provides key insights into their social and emotional development.



### Guiding Families with Compassion

Dr. Klindt understands that evaluations can be an emotional experience for caregivers. She reassures families that her goal is not to focus on what's "wrong" but to better understand their child and find ways to help them thrive. By providing clear explanations and resources, she helps caregivers feel empowered and supported throughout the process.

### Why Early Support Matters

Early evaluations are a gateway to critical resources and interventions. Dr. Klindt emphasizes that starting early can make a significant difference in a child's development, helping them build confidence, independence, and skills that will benefit them for years to come. She reminds families that a diagnosis is not a limitation but a tool to unlock opportunities and support tailored to their child's needs.

Dr. Klindt's dedication to empowering families and celebrating each child's individuality ensures that every person she works with feels seen, supported, and ready to take the next steps in their journey.



## *Temecula Parkway*

All the staff are very friendly and compassionate. Our son has been learning so much these past couple of months. A big shoutout to all his BTs and substitute BTs who are very friendly. We have seen our son transform, and everyone has been very helpful with potty training. We've been able to be successful with potty training so far, and overall, we see our son grow, and we're so thankful for having you guys along on our autism journey. We are very appreciative of you all.

## *Nashville Lebanon*

My son has made huge improvement in many skills in only a couple of weeks. The teachers really get involved with the children and they learn each student. My son is starting to communicate more efficiently now!

## *Holly Springs Ralph Stephens*

ABS Kids has been absolutely amazing. The staff there is phenomenal. I couldn't ask for a better place to take my daughter for ABA therapy.

## *Columbia Fernandina*

We love ABS Kids!  
They have been amazing for my little one.

# WHAT'S YOUR WOW

CHECK OUT OUR WOW  
MOMENTS FROM NOVEMBER

Sandy Burgess

I had a WOW moment with my client, a 3-year-old nonverbal boy. I have been working with him for 7 months. We have been working on sharing, He will share with me but not so much with his peers.

He has an alphabet set that is his preferred item. His peer came over and picked up a letter, he started to get upset. I told him that it's ok we're going to share with our friend. He proceeded on his own to hand him every letter A-Z to put on the alphabet board. It was truly incredible moment for both boys one verbal and one nonverbal one said the letter and the other found the letter and gave it to him, you could've heard a pin drop in the room. We all just stopped and took it in for the beautiful a WOW moment it was.



CHECK OUT ANOTHER  
WOW MOMENT ENTRY  
FROM NOVEMBER.

Asher Williams

A WOW moment I had recently was realizing that my client has been doing really well at wearing clothes. Thinking back, he used to disrobe everyday because of sensory issues and I rarely see that anymore.



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

Contact ABS Kids to learn more about our services!