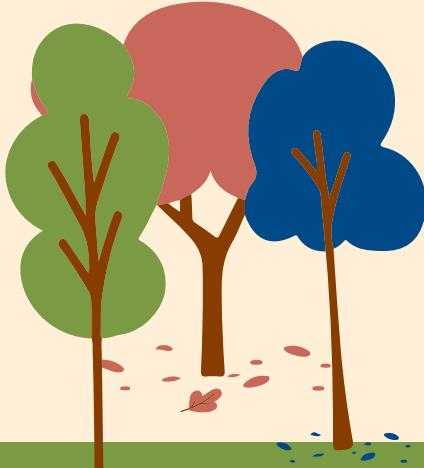


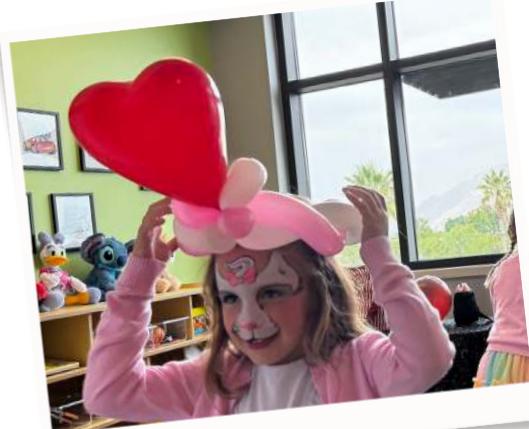
WOW Factor



As the leaves begin to turn and the air gets crisp, we're thrilled to welcome you to the September edition of the WOW Factor Recap! This month, we embraced the beauty of fall and came together to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with joy, culture, and connection.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us at our Sensory-Friendly Fall Fun in Riverside, CA this month. Your participation and enthusiasm continue to make our community stronger and more vibrant.

Check out some highlights from September as we enter October!



September Upcoming Events



October 4th

Peek-A-Boo bash - Greensboro, NC (grand opening)

October 9th

Trunk-or-Treat - Greenville, SC

October 11th

Triangle Run/Walk for Autism - Raleigh, NC

Sensory Friendly Halloween Bash - St. George, UT

October 14th

Sensory Friendly Halloween Bash - Riverdale, UT

October 15th

Sensory Friendly Peak-A-Boo Bash - Kaysville, UT

October 17th

Trunk-or-Treat in the Hill - Rock Hill, SC

October 18th

Trunk-or-Treat - Grantsville, UT

October 21st

Sensory Friendly Peak-A-Boo Bash - American Fork, UT

October 23rd

Trunk-or-Treat - Garner, NC

October 24th

Greer Farmers Market "Trick or Treat" - Greer, SC

October 25th

Boo at the Zoo - Nashville, TN

Sensory Friendly Halloween Bash - Rancho Cucamonga, CA (grand opening)

October 27th

Trunk-or-Treat - Charlotte, NC

Check out our full community events calendar on our website!



Motley Squad Inaugural Golf Jam



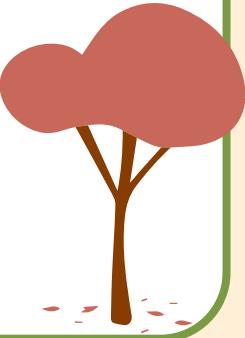
Salt Lake City - Flutie 5K



Uplifting Your Community: Low Sensory Camp

Creating inclusive spaces is vital for children in the autism community, and our Low Sensory Camp is designed with their unique needs in mind. This Burn Boot Camp provides a sensory-friendly environment where kids ages 3-13 can feel comfortable and supported.

With movement-based activities led by skilled trainers, on-site resources from ABS Kids, and opportunities to connect with other families, the camp fosters growth, connection, and joy. It's a chance for children to thrive in a space tailored just for them.



Hear from our Psychologist

Dr. Sarah Brown, a clinical psychologist with ABS Kids in Tennessee, is passionate about supporting families and children navigating autism.

The Role of Assessments

Psychological evaluations provide clarity on a child's development, helping identify autism or other concerns like ADHD or speech delays. Dr. Brown's goal is to guide families with understanding and actionable steps.

Why Early Intervention Matters

Early, evidence-based therapies like ABA empower children to build independence and confidence. Dr. Brown emphasizes that these therapies focus on helping children thrive as their authentic selves, not on making them appear neurotypical.

Advice for Families

Dr. Brown encourages parents to approach evaluations with an open mind, knowing the process is designed to help. Completing pre-appointment materials is key to providing valuable insights into a child's development.

Empowering Autistic Individuals

A diagnosis is a tool for understanding and growth. It helps children embrace their individuality and equips families with a roadmap for tailored support.

Dr. Brown's compassionate approach ensures every child and family feels supported on their journey.





Hear from One of Our BCBA's



Maddie believes in teamwork, emphasizing, "I'm an expert in ABA, but parents are the experts on their child. Together, we make the perfect team."

She works closely with families to build essential skills, like teaching a child to respond to "stop" and use an AAC device, which improved safety and communication while reducing tantrums.

For new RBTs, Maddie encourages leaning on peers and trusting the process, noting that skills develop with time and practice. She credits the ABS Kids [LAUNCH program](#) for giving her the confidence and experience to thrive as a BCBA.

Maddie's dedication to her clients and their families continues to make a meaningful impact every day.

ABS Kids



[5 Halloween Tips & Tricks for Autistic Children: Costumes, Trick-or-Treating, and More](#)

Check out our latest Blogs!



[Understanding Anxiety in Young Autistic Children](#)



[How VR and AI Are Revolutionizing Autism Therapy](#)

Autism Weekly

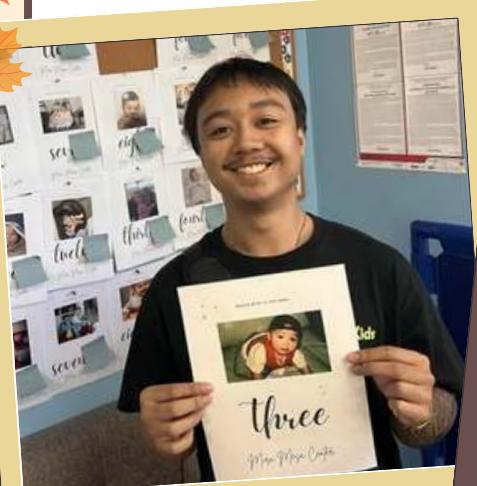


Podcast Spotlight: Featuring Ron Souers

Have you listened to our latest podcast episode with Ron Souers yet? As the voice behind "Don't Mind Me, I'm Different!" and author of The Self Discovery Journal for Adults with ADHD, Ron is on a mission to empower adults with ADHD to embrace their uniqueness and unlock their potential.

In this episode, he shares his journey, practical tips for families raising neurodiverse kids, and how ADHD can become a superpower.

VO Updates



Guess Who's the Baby Day!

The Mira Mesa Center was full of smiles and laughter during our Guess Who's the Baby game! Everyone had a blast matching baby photos to their teammates, and it was such a fun way to connect and share some joy.



Ahoy, Mateys! Pirate Day Fun!

Our centers set sail for adventure on Pirate Day, and it was a treasure trove of fun! From pirate hats to swashbuckling games, everyone got into the spirit and made it a day to remember.



CELEBRATING **HISPANIC** HERITAGE MONTH

This Hispanic Heritage Month, we celebrated culture and autism advocacy by asking meaningful questions. Here are the insightful responses we received.



What's a tradition that holds special meaning to you?

Celebrating Día de los Muertos is a cherished tradition for my family. Each year, we create an ofrenda adorned with photos, items, and food to honor our loved ones and keep their memories alive. I especially love making green chicken posole and fresh tortillas. This holiday became even more meaningful to me after the pandemic in 2020, when I experienced multiple family losses and couldn't say goodbye in person due to restrictions. Now, celebrating feels even more special, and I love attending festivals and dressing up for the occasion.

Miki Ontiveros - RBT III



How has cultural understanding made a difference in YOUR life?

As a first-generation Mexican-American and cancer survivor, cultural understanding has shaped my resilience, empathy, and love for traditions. Translating for my grandma taught me patience, and our Christmas Eve countdown reminds me of the joy of togetherness. Inclusivity matters—it lets me embrace my heritage and connect authentically with others.

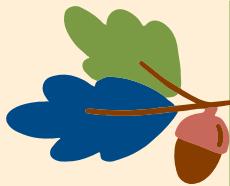
Stephany Hurtado - BCBA



What's inspired you about Hispanic culture?

Hispanic culture has deeply inspired me through its emphasis on language and connection. Spanish was my first language, thanks to my parents, and I learned English through PBS shows like Sesame Street. By elementary school, I was fluent in both. Being bilingual isn't just about language—it's about bridging worlds, a value I now carry into my work.

Melissa Renteria - RBT II



San Bernardino Hunts

I'm so proud of the progress that my daughter is making with ABA therapy. The staff are kind, respectful and really listen to my concerns. I'm so grateful to have their support.

Thanks Diane and Ray!

Nashville Lebanon

Mi experiencia en ABS Kids para realizar el diagnóstico de mi niño fue maravilloso, empezando que la cita fue rápido, la doctora Sarah Brown excelente profesional, amable, y los traductores muy buenos también el personal que te atiende cuando llamas, realmente personas increíbles, Dios las bendiga. [My experience at ABS Kids for my child's diagnosis was wonderful, starting with the fact that the appointment was quick, Dr. Sarah Brown was an excellent professional, friendly, and the translators were very good, as well as the staff who assisted you when you called, truly incredible people, God bless them.]

Rock Hill Piedmont

The evaluation was very smooth and the process was explained to us in great detail to where we could understand before the evaluation started. The results were also explained in great detail and we left more knowledgeable about autism and was also given a directive to what our next steps should be. I loved my experience and will refer anyone to ABS Kids.

Ogden

They work with me & my son's school to come up with the best plans for his therapy. They are kind & friendly & my son loves his person he works with each day. We have seen improvements in how my son handles the things he struggles with, like loud sounds.

WHAT'S YOUR WOW

CHECK OUT OUR
WOW MOMENTS
FROM SEPTEMBER

Tracy PierrePaul

My WOW moment this week was when my client ran up, said "Hi Tracy," and gave me a big hug. After three challenging weeks of refusals, no acknowledgment, and wondering if he even liked me, something finally clicked. Now, he's listening, participating, and even inviting me to join activities with "Come on, Tracy!" The elopement has stopped, and he's engaging with me in ways I didn't think would happen so soon. It warms my heart to see his trust grow, and that moment of connection reminded me why I do what I do.



CHECK OUT ANOTHER
WOW MOMENT ENTRY
FROM SEPTEMBER.

Sandy Burgess

On 9/5/25, I had a WOW moment with my 3-year-old nonverbal client, whom I've been working with for 7 months. We've been focusing on sharing—he'll share with me but struggles with peers. His favorite item is an alphabet set, and when a peer picked up a letter, he started to get upset. I gently reminded him, "It's okay, we're going to share with our friend." To my amazement, he proceeded to hand his peer every letter A-Z to place on the alphabet board. It was incredible—one boy verbal, saying the letters, and the other nonverbal, finding and sharing them. The room fell silent as we all took in the beauty of the moment. It was truly a WOW experience for everyone.

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

Contact ABS Kids to learn more about our services!