

BLUE BIRD SUCCESS STORY

Michael, Age 5, Autism Diagnosis



Blue Bird Day's (BBD) mission is to champion children to reach their full potential by providing individualized therapeutic care in the most natural setting. BBD is designed to foster socialization, sensory regulation and pre-academic learning in children ages 2 - 7 years in therapeutic rotations that simulate a preschool and kindergarten setting. We believe in regular assessment with both therapists and families, incorporating multi-disciplinary data to review and evaluate current program effectiveness and appropriateness of treatment goals and supports. Below is a summary of Michael's progress from initial evaluation to 1 year of treatment.

A NOTE FROM A THERAPIST

CATEGORY	INITIAL EVALUATION	AFTER 1 YEAR
Social Skills	<p>b1-f 7lom u-7 o l</p> <p>7f- bm o 1b-f lobom-f</p> <p>7forlm7 ruubm o</p> <p>-1 ru r f-bm-7 o</p> <p>m-bm b 1 f o</p> <p>rum7 b bm-bfb o</p> <p>m-bm rum7 bulotb 1</p> <p>rt7 ruubm uo -m7</p> <p>ltf</p>	<p>b1-f mastered the skill of relational play, in which he was able to initiate functional interactions with a variety of play materials in a meaningful and related way as well as playing with toys functionally through their intended purpose.</p>
Practical Life Skills	<p>b-vou bm v bm</p> <p>v u oobmv utbubm</p> <p>f o v uv vbm</p> <p>-vmuv rbm om vov</p> <p>-vbm bv -mv -m</p> <p>bmbb-bm b b m obmv</p>	<p>b was able to initiate his toileting routine by communicating when he needed to change his diaper, void on the toilet with adult support and complete some steps of his dressing routine independently.</p>
Communication	<p>b-vou v</p> <p>bm o mbom-</p> <p>ollmb-bom om r m</p> <p>ouv v l v m uv v b</p> <p>rtbuv v v b m m o</p> <p>u- ollmb-bm</p> <p>b uv m v b m</p>	<p> mastered the skills of reciprocating joint attention, appropriately responding to verbal commands, maintaining reciprocal interactions through turn taking with peers, and answering "w" questions.</p>

"I have been working with Michael since January 2018. Honestly, at the time, we were both new to the field of ABA. When Michael began ABA services at Blue Bird, we were targeting goals such as requesting and making eye contact with adults and peers. He had a low tolerance for being denied access to preferred items/activities and required assistance with play ideas. Now, in 2020, Michael initiates play with peers independently. He is able to articulate different play ideas and functionally engage in structured games. Michael has increased his tolerance of accepting denied access and now utilizes a calming sequence (that he developed) to help regulate himself. Michael has increased his independence across different tasks (i.e. playing, academic work, self care routines, etc.) and takes so much pride in completing things on his own.

I have so many memories with Michael at Blue Bird. Prior to the shutdown, I saw Michael at Blue Bird twice a day (once during group rotation and once for individual session). When I would go pick him up from other therapist he would laugh and say, "Ms. Briana? Not again." Wherever you saw me, you saw Michael. One particular day Michael and I had a difficult session - The new work was hard, we were both tired. I did the only thing I knew to do, give him a snack. While eating, he looked at me and said, " I love you Ms. Briana". I knew then one thing: a snack will fix everything. Michael has always challenged me to be a better therapist and person. His growth since being at Blue Bird has been amazing and I consider it a true honor to have been part of his success."

CATEGORY	INITIAL (HAWAII HELP) % DELAY	ANNUAL (DAY-C) % DELAY
Cognition	16%	No delay, above age-level in scores
Social-Emotional	33%	3%
Self-Help / Adaptive Behavior	33%	19%