

BLUE BIRD SUCCESS STORY

Marco, 4 years old, Diagnosis of Autism

Marco started at Blue Bird Day following sibling's success at Blue Bird Day. Marco is sweet, energetic, charming, and playful. He enjoys books, all animals, music, dinosaurs, swinging, and jumping on his trampoline. He is always full of joy and laughter and loves hugs from his mom, dad, and sister.

INITIAL EVALUATION

- Difficulties attending to adult-directed tasks / activities
- Melt down / tantrum behavior
- Limited functional play skills
- Significant receptive and expressive language delays
- Low frustration tolerance
- Difficulties modulating multi-sensory input
- Lack of safety awareness in large peer-oriented environments

INITIAL GOALS

- Ability to self regulate
- Safety awareness
- Social skills to support interactions with sibling and peers
- Increase frustration tolerance
- Body awareness
- Increasing expressive and receptive language

PROGRESS NOTES OR OUTCOMES

- Responds to yes and no questions
- Improved play skills of engaging in simple pretend play
- Increased attention to routine and seated activities
- Ability to engage in parallel play with peers
- Improved ability to self-regulate
- Ability to verbally express wants and needs
- Improved safety awareness in clinic space and home

DISCIPLINES & SERVICES OFFERED

- Social Work
- Physical Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Developmental Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Behavior Therapy

Blue Bird Day

Therapeutic Day Program with locations in West Loop, Northcenter and Wheaton, Illinois

Contact us at info@bluebirddayprogram.com

312.243.8487

BLUEBIRDDAYPROGRAM.COM



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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 Marco's progress from initial evaluation to one-year of treatment.



A NOTE FROM A THERAPIST

"I have been working with Marco since I started at Blue Bird in August 2019. When I first started working with Marco we were targeting goals related to functional play skills, social skills, attention, and expressing wants and needs. Marco displayed limited to no interest in peers. He would often bang his toys on the ground and required hand-over-hand support in engaging in play materials functionally. He demonstrated difficulties in expressing himself and expressing his wants and needs. Now, in 2021, Marco demonstrates an increased interest in peers. He now participates in play with his sister. He engages in multi-step play actions independently and uses play materials functionally. His social emotional development has improved, as he is now able to express his wants and needs in complete sentences and identify his feelings. Marco is able to follow directions and has developed an increased frustration tolerance.

Since the pandemic, Marco has been participating in virtual therapy in his home with support of an RBT. He has really blown me away with the amount of progress he has made. Pre-pandemic, Marco never said my name. Now he is always the first one to greet me during our group virtual sessions each day. Marco is very attentive during our sessions and is always ready to identify and answer my questions regarding the calendar, shapes, colors, letters, and emotions each day. It is truly incredible to see the progress and how resilient he has been during a global pandemic."

CATEGORY	INITIAL EVALUATION	AFTER 1 YEAR
Social Skills	Marco scored in delays in social emotional development. He demonstrated limited to no interest in peers and engaged in child-directed play. He also demonstrated with a lack of functional play skills and was noted in banging toys on the ground.	Marco was able to engage in functional play with play materials. He developed a visual interest in peers in his environment and the ability to engage in parallel play with peers. He was sequencing multi-step play actions with related play materials.
Practical Life Skills	Marco scored with delays in practical life skills. He was noted in requiring moderate to maximum support in dressing and undressing tasks. He demonstrated discomfort and dysregulation during diaper changes.	Marco was able to participate in dressing and undressing tasks with minimal support. He demonstrated discomfort when pull-up was soiled and verbally identified bowel movements in pull-up. He began sitting on toilet for at least 1 minute to begin toilet training.
Communication	Marco scored with increased delays in communication. He demonstrated with limited verbal communication and utilized Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) to request motivating items. He demonstrated difficulty communicating his basic wants and needs.	Marco demonstrated decreased interest in utilizing PECS to communicate across contexts as his verbal language increased. He demonstrated the ability to express his wants and needs via total communication (verbalization, pictures, gestures). He strengthened his ability to label and request preferred items.

CATEGORY	INITIAL (HAWAII HELP) % DELAY	ANNUAL (DAY-C) % DELAY
Cognition	62%	49%
Social-Emotional	71%	46%
Self-Help / Adaptive Behavior	71%	46%