

**Two-Day
Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS)
Training Workshop**

The Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) was developed as a means to teach children with autism and related developmental disabilities a **rapidly acquired, self-initiating, functional communication system**. PECS promotes communication within a social context, and there is no lengthy prerequisite training. Training in PECS begins by teaching a spontaneous request, and goes on to teach additional communicative functions such as responding to questions and commenting. Children on PECS are highly motivated to learn the system because they can quickly obtain exactly what they want. Through PECS, children with autism can learn the importance of having other people help them and learn to count on people responding to their initiated communication. An added attraction for preschool children with autism and related disabilities is the high proportion of children who acquire independent speech.

As a result of this conference, participants will:

1. Identify key Pyramid components to design effective educational environments
2. Discuss a historical and theoretical overview of language training programs used with non-verbal individuals.
3. Describe in detail the Picture Exchange Communication System and its relationship to “traditional” training programs.
4. Apply the procedures and instructional techniques related to a behavior analytic orientation involved in implementing PECS with young children with autism.

Day 1

- 7:30 Registration
- 8:00 Introduction and The Pyramid Approach to Education
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Continuation of the Pyramid Approach to Education
- 11:30 Traditional approaches to communication training
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Phase I (with role playing)
Phase II
- 2:30 Break
- 2:45 Early Discrimination lessons
Error correction with role-playing
- 4:00 End of day

Day 2

8:00 Review and questions
8:30 Phase III, continued with role playing
Phase IV
10:00 Break
10:15 Phases V-VI
12:00 Lunch
1:00 Additional Communication Skills
2:30 Break
2:45 Direction following, schedule following, visual reinforcement systems
4:00 End of day

Location: San Francisco, CA The Ramada Plaza International Hotel

Dates: September 22 & 23, 2003

Tuition: \$345 if payment is made with a credit card
Registration fee includes a copy of the 2nd Edition PECS Training Manual.

Sponsored by: Pyramid Educational Consultants, Inc.

ASHA CEUs: 1.3

For registration information please call 1-888-732-7462 or 1-302-368-2515

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