



Add Play To Your Work.... Spring 2011 New England Association for Play Therapy.



**New England Summer
Conference**
June 9th & 10th
Sheraton Tara, Framingham, MA

Creative Play Therapy Interventions for Children and Families

**Presenter: Liana Lowenstein, MSW, RSW,
CPT-S** (profile on next page)

This very practical training will present creative engagement, assessment, and treatment interventions to make individual, group, and family sessions meaningful and effective. The activities presented are applicable to a broad range of client populations, such as family violence, divorce, grief and loss, chronic or terminal illness, substance abuse, and placement in out-of-home care. Activities will be presented on a variety of treatment themes, including anger management, social skills, and self-esteem.

Objectives

Participants will learn:

- ◆ Innovative strategies to engage clients in the therapy process
- ◆ Creative interventions to assess and treat children and families
- ◆ Ways of managing challenging client behavior
- ◆ How to integrate interventions to make individual, group, and family therapy sessions meaningful and effective

June 9-10th 2011, 9:00-4:30 (Registration 8:30-9:00)
@Sheraton Tara (the Castle), Framingham, MA

Groups! Groups! Groups!.....

The Fear! The Passion! The Mess!

**Play Therapy that will invigorate and
inspire group work!**

Presenter: Wendy Monahan, MEd, RPT-S

This play therapy workshop offers a look at family and group therapy. This experiential and didactic workshop addresses the adventures and excitement of running small play-based counseling groups in both a school and clinical setting. Participants will look at groups structures, themes, guidelines and therapeutic activities that help children grow and keep them coming back for more. Therapeutic factors of Play Therapy will be covered as well as how each activity embraces these factors. Participants will learn about a wide range of treatment modalities and techniques for use with a variety of populations. We will also talk about the nuts-and-bolts of communicating play therapy sessions to families, school personnel, insurance companies, and other practitioners. Some play therapy materials will be provided as well as lots of practical and fun ideas for school, community and family settings across all developmental levels. Come and learn to embrace the process and love the groups!

PRESENTER PROFILE:

Liana Lowenstein, MSW, is an author, internationally sought-after speaker, and practitioner in Toronto with over 20 years of specialized work with children and their families. She provides clinical supervision to mental health practitioners, runs a play-therapy internship program, and consults to several mental health agencies. She has a reputation as a dynamic workshop leader and has presented trainings across North America and abroad. She is author of

numerous publications including the highly-acclaimed books, *Paper Dolls & Paper Airplanes: Therapeutic Exercises for Sexually Traumatized Children* (with Crisci & Lay, 1997), *Creative Interventions for Troubled Children & Youth* (1999), *Creative Interventions for Children of Divorce* (2006), and *Creative Interventions for Bereaved Children* (2006). She has also edited the books, *Assessment and Treatment Activities for Children, Adolescents, and Families: Practitioners Share Their Most Effective Techniques* (Volumes One and Two) and *Creative Family Therapy Techniques*.

The Book Nook

By: Laurel L. Hemmer

"Remember to Play"

Sometimes we are given a gift during the counseling session.

I was working with a fifth grade boy and the conversation came to a natural end when I realized we had five minutes left in the session. I told the boy he could go back early or we could talk about something different. He chose to stay, there was an awkward silence, and then I asked, "Read any good books lately?" he asked me the same and I told him I had just read Because of Winn Dixie and The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, both by Kate DiCamillo. He, too, had read the latter and as we started talking about our favorite parts of the story we had the most amazing moment.

This client has a very strained relationship and often feels his father doesn't love him. We've addressed this issue a few times, yet the work has been hard. Then we began talking about a character in the book whose father clearly loved her yet wasn't able to show his love to her. In the shortest amount of time, messages I had been wanting to impart to him and have him embrace unfolded in the most natural and easy way as a result of our discussion of this character.

Sometimes it's not about reading the latest book on communication or relationships or play therapy. Sometimes it is just about reading and connecting with our clients through shared frames of reference, the very real characters they know in books.

I highly recommend Kate DiCamillo's books.

NE-APT Annual Board Meeting

On Saturday, January 22, 2011, the NE-APT Board held their annual retreat/meeting in Framingham, MA, at the office of Stefani Misiph. This full day meeting is held annually to take care of branch business as efficiently as possible since members live so far apart.

The morning was taken up with discussions on the branch conferences.

First, was an evaluation of the November, 2010 conference. This was the first time we had planned a preconference for Friday night as well as the full day conference on Saturday. The evaluations gave very positive feedback for both the speakers and the new format. In particular, Paris Goodyear-Brown was a great speaker and very well received. Except for some food glitches it was generally deemed a huge success.

We then looked at a proposal from Liana Lowenstein and Wendy Monahan to do a 2 day conference in June. We decided we would sponsor them since Wendy is from right here in New England, and Liana is a well known, and well-published speaker. You will find information on their full day conferences in this newsletter! Mark your calendars now for Thursday and Friday, June 9 and 10 in Framingham, MA!

The November conference was originally going to be the weekend of November 11 and 12, but due to scheduling conflicts with the various hotels it has been pushed forward to November 4 and 5. This will

be the same format as last November. There will be a choice of preconference workshops on Friday night. We are excited to have David Crenshaw be our conference speaker for all day Saturday. He will present **“Fauns in Gorilla Suits, Using Play Therapy with Aggressive Children”**. So mark your calendars for the weekend of November 4 and 5th!

The conferences were the main topic of discussion for the day but we also covered the newsletter – coming up with more local speakers for the speaker survey, making the book nook more accessible for readers’ comments, etc. – and the structure of the board. We would like to expand the board, especially to include a member from VT and CT. So, if you are willing to serve in this capacity, please let us know!

We also reviewed our annual budget, and reviewed the report from the national APT branch business meeting. New business included talking about community collaboratives and how we can set up networking to let specific populations know about pertinent training opportunities. For example, targeting schools and agencies that do groups for the Thursday June conference.

Amazingly, we ended our day pretty much right at 3pm!

If you have questions, or comments, please feel free to respond at:

barbaravh@mail.com.

We want your input! This is your newsletter, so please feel free and comment or send in an article to DeeDee at nolddeedee@aol.com or Barbara at barbarava@mail.com. We look forward to your views and ideas.

Upcoming Training Announcements: The following workshops (unless otherwise listed) are offered by or in conjunction with the New England Association for Play Therapy. NE-APT is APT Provider #02-123.

April 9, 10, 16 & 17, 2011. Cognitive Behavioral Play Therapy w/ DeeDee Nold, LICSW, RPT-S. 3 credit class, Plymouth State University. Plymouth, NH. jcerami2@mail.plymouth.edu, nolddeedee@aol.com.

NE-APT Midyear Conference Framingham:

June 9-10th, 2011 for a day of Group Play Therapy with Wendy Monahan and a day of Family Play Therapy with Liana Lowenstein. At the Sheraton Tara, Castle, Framingham, MA *****
www.newenglandplaytherapy.org

June 24th, 2011: Essential Elements of Child Centered Play Therapy with Laurie Parker, LMFT RPT-S, and DeeDee Nold, LICSW, RPT-S. \$100 plus \$5 registration fee. 2 Pillsbury Street, 5th floor, Concord, NH (603) 535-2868 begin_of_the_skype_highlighting (603) 535-2868 lahammond1@plymouth.edu.

Aug 1-5th, 2011 and 8th-12th, 2011 Summer Cape Cod Play Therapy Seminars available through Play Therapy Works in Eastham, MA. Provider # 00-098
<http://playtherapyworks.weebly.com/cape-cod-summer-seminars.html>

Fall 2011 Child Centered Play Therapy with Sarah O'Brien, LICSW, RPT-S at Rhode Island College Graduate School of Social Work. 3 credit class or 42 ceus (eligible for 64 APT hours if taken for credit). jnimmagadda@ric.edu

NE_APT ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

Save the Dates: Nov 4th-5th, 2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE with David Crenshaw, PhD, RPT-S. Fawns in Gorilla Suits: Working with aggressive children. At the Sheraton Tara Castle, Framingham, MA. Friday evening pre-conference topics and full day Saturday with David.
www.newenglandplaytherapy.org *****

Remember, regardless of whom the presenter is, if the workshop announcements do not state APT approval with a provider number, APT will not approve it for RPT/RPT-S application or renewal.

If you are not a member, please join to receive the member discounts plus many more benefits outlined on www.a4pt.org.