

# Thoughtful Response to Agitation, Escalation, and Meltdowns with Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

Parents or professionals involved with children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) are skilled in their delivery of front-end strategies because these strategies provide calm, focused moments that optimize both functioning and learning. However, there are times that, despite preparation for the anticipated challenges (such as rearranging the environment, communicating appropriately, and fulfilling sensory needs), children still experience agitation that escalates until they have a "meltdown."

This half-day workshop will facilitate understanding of young children with ASD and use that understanding to guide proactive and, if necessary, reactive responses to escalating agitation with the recognition that consequences don't always, or even often, work with young children with ASD who are, by the nature of their diagnosis, easily frustrated and often inflexible.

This session will be divided into three topic areas:

- Understanding Inflexible-Explosive Children
- Understanding the Stages of Crisis Leading to Meltdown
- Reacting to Agitation, Escalation, and Meltdown

## Participants in this professional development activity will:

- identify common characteristics of young children who are prone to meltdowns;
- understand how these characteristics are determined and driven by neurological differences; and
- learn new ways to proactively and reactively support children during and after periods of agitation and tantrums in order to improve children's outcomes.

## Dates & Times:

Session A: Thursday, November 29, 2007  
12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

OR

Session B: Friday, November 30, 2007  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

## Location:

Marriott Courtyard, Cromwell  
(Both Sessions)

## Presenter:

**Rebecca Klaw**  
Consultant and Trainer  
Autism Services by Klaw (ASK)  
Pittsburgh, PA

## Audience: PreK, 3-5

Seventy-five (75) early childhood general and special education teachers, school administrators, support services professionals, and family members of young children with special needs, ages 3-5

## CEUs:

None  
Certificate of Attendance will be awarded.

## Registration Fee:

**\$45.00 per person**  
Payable to Rensselaer at Hartford  
Payment is due prior to the session  
upon confirmation of participation.

## Questions/ Special Needs:

Contact: Karyn Champion  
Education Services Specialist  
(860) 632-1485, ext. 225

## Register By:

Tuesday, November 13, 2007



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Early Childhood Education Initiative

Please return application to SERC, **ECE Initiative**, 25 Industrial Park Road, Middletown, CT 06457-1520. Participants will be selected on a first come, first served basis with regional consideration. Applicants will receive written confirmation regarding participation shortly after the registration closing date. The registration fee is payable upon notice of acceptance.

APPLICATION FORM: **Thoughtful Responses to Meltdowns w/Children w/ASD** (08-46-029-030-FNECE)kc (Please print clearly.)

Please indicate choice of session(s):  Session A: 11/29/07  Session B: 11/30/07

District/Region \_\_\_\_\_ School/Program \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Role \_\_\_\_\_ Age Range \_\_ B-3 \_\_ 3-5 \_\_ K Email (Please Print.) \_\_\_\_\_

Release time is approved for educators: Administrator's Signature is required \_\_\_\_\_

In which region do you receive/provide services? \_\_ ACES // \_\_ CES // \_\_ CREC // \_\_ EASTCONN // \_\_ ED CONNECTION // \_\_ LEARN