



As recently as 20 years ago, the general public had hardly heard the word "autism" let alone knew what it was. Many related it to the movie *Rain Man* and savantism. Today it is in the headlines with greater and greater frequency.

The Autism Society began celebrating National Autism Awareness Month in the 1970s to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community. In 2012, autism dominated headlines as public awareness heightened with controversy around proposed changes to how autism spectrum disorder will be diagnosed in the future as well as updates on autism's prevalence (1 in 88).

Whether you are a casual observer, or autism touches your daily life, you will find the following article [*Ten Important Things We Know About Autism Today That We Didn't Know a Year Ago*](#) interesting. While research still has a way to go, it has come very far in a relatively short amount of time.

SPEECHPlus is recognizing National Autism Awareness Month, both in this month's e-Newsletter and, through daily topic related posts on our Facebook page (Be sure to like our Speech Plus Facebook page!). The goal of our page is to provide timely and informational posts to our client families. Please feel free to share articles you find helpful and interesting or comment on how autism touches your life. The children we work with have definitely touched ours.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Renee".

Renee H. Matlock, MA, CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist
Executive Director

WE HAVE THREE "SAVE THE DATES"

#1: Reading Outreach –
Support group for parents
of children who struggle
with reading

Next meeting:

May 16th at 6:30pm at
SPEECHPlus

Please RSVP to 815-464-6069

Speaker topic:

*Who or what is
Orton-Gillingham?*

* * *

#2. Library Partnership

Next Presentation:

May 9th at 7:00pm at the
Frankfort Public Library

Topic:

*Speech-Language
Developmental Milestones
for Children
Birth through Age Five*

* * *

#3. Don't forget...
our summer session
starts June 10th!



Education experts agree that summer break causes the average student to lose one month of instruction, referred to as "summer slide" or "brain drain". Stay ahead of the game... let **SPEECHPlus** customize a summer program specific to your child's needs.

Our Summer Programs Start June 10th...
Call 815-464-6069 & Register Your Child Today

Just for your *Shining Star*

TIMELY ADVICE • 5-18 YEARS OLD



The IEP is the cornerstone for the education of a child with a disability. It should identify the services a child needs so that he or she may grow and learn during the school year. [CLICK HERE](#) to find out how you can prepare for an IEP meeting.



AUTISM RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Autism is Treatable

If you have a child with autism you have likely heard of the DSM-IV. The DSM-IV stands for the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual-Fourth Edition (DSM-IV). [CLICK HERE](#) to find out what the Autism

Research Institute says about how changes to the DSM criteria may have an impact on your family.



AUTISM SPEAKS®
 It's time to listen.

The [automated M-CHAT](#) now available on the Autism Speaks website offers free

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

HELPFUL HINT • 0-4 YEARS OLD

One of the most important things you can do as a parent or caregiver is to learn the early signs of autism and become familiar with the typical developmental milestones that your child should be reaching. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn the early signs of autism.

Children with special needs have their own special night at our museum!



Special Needs Family Nights • 6-8pm
 Last Wednesday of the month:
 4/24, 5/29, 6/26, 7/31, 8/28, 9/25, 10/30, 11/27



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 monthly \$10 gift card

online scoring and recommendations, with the ability to review, print and save the results so they can be shared with a child's doctor or other developmental specialist.

[Click here](#) to check your child's language development!

[Forward this message to a friend](#)

We are the only clinic specializing in speech, language and learning. We serve children birth through high school!

SPEECH Plus | 10071 W. Lincoln Hwy Frankfort, IL 60423 | 815.464.6069 | www.speechplus.org

drawing!

