



EDUCATOR'S HEARTBEAT

Volume XIV Issue 4 May 2010

FDLRS Heartland maintains a website that not only updates current offerings in professional development both here and on-line, but also catalogs our resource collection, lists Child Find screening dates, and links to our current newsletter. In addition, we now have presentations that provide an overview of assistive technology, as well as tools and techniques for supporting students who struggle with reading and writing. We have also developed a wiki for links to a wealth of on-line information and resources, and invite you to become a member and share your favorite sites and strategies with us.

The FDLRS Heartland Associate Center serves Exceptional Student Education in DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, and Highlands Counties. For more information on services offered by FDLRS Heartland please visit our website

www.efdlrs.net/heartland

Help us help you! Take the needs assessment survey at:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=m0pVJcdEC4jj6H2Ubn2fGfA3d3d>

With school winding down soon, everyone is busy trying to tie up all those loose ends and attend all the events that are required for the end of a school year. FDLRS Heartland is winding down as well for the 2009-10 year, but we are also looking ahead to the beginning of 2010-11!

We ask that you please look at the needs assessment questionnaire on our website. Take a moment to answer the few questions on it so that we can provide services to you that are pertinent to what you need.

We are also offering an additional gifted add on endorsement course this year during the summer months (see flyer and registration in the newsletter).

If you are in the cycle for gifted add on endorsement this is the next course you would need. Hopefully many of you will sign up for this course as it will be a week long course as opposed to several months.

If any one would like some Strategic Instruction Model (SIM) in-service over the summer months, now is the time to make that request. Contact us at **FDLRS Heartland to schedule – 863 531 0444 x230.**

Table of Contents
Introduction...1
Understanding DATA...2
Understanding DATA Flyer...3
Understanding DATA Reg. Form...4
Understanding ADD...5-6
IDEAs that Work...7
Nature and Needs of the Gifted Student...8
Nat. & Needs Reg. Form...9
Please Help Us Plan...10
Behavior Management...11
Happy Mother's Day...12



Understanding Data

FDLRS Heartland is offering a day long training on understanding FCAT data. We will look at how School Grades and Adequate Yearly Progress are determined from FCAT data. We will also show how to use FCAT results to improve student achievement and enhance instructional effectiveness, especially in the context of Response to Intervention.

The training is scheduled for May 19, 2010, from 8:30-3:30 at the Heartland Educational Consortium in Lake Placid. Space is limited, so please register using the attached registration form.

For more information, please contact Byron Smith at:
smithb@hendry.k12.fl.us

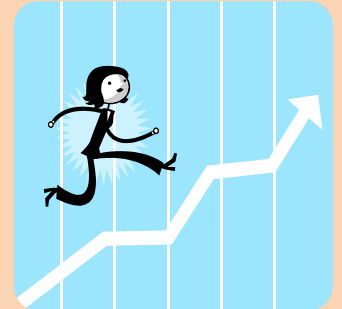
The Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resource System is funded by the State of Florida, Department of Education, Division of Public Schools and Community Education, Bureau of Exceptional Student Education and Student Services, through Federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B, IDEA, Part B Preschool and State General Revenue Funds.

Understanding Data

Using FCAT Data for Instructional Decision Making



Presented by
Byron Smith
Bernadette Duncan
FDLRS Heartland



~~~~~  
Wednesday, May 19, 2010  
Heartland Educational Consortium  
Conference Room A  
1076 Hwy 27 North, Lake Placid, FL

8:30am ~ 3:30pm

Learn how to navigate through FCAT data to improve student achievement and enhance instructional effectiveness. Training includes an in-depth understanding of the School Grade and AYP Report, Classroom Trend Reports, Learning Gains and FCAT test design.

You must register to attend this training.  
To register please fax the attached form to

**FDLRS Heartland 863-531-0425**

*The Florida Diagnostic & Learning Resource System is funded by the State of Florida, Department of Education, Division of Public Schools and Community Education, Bureau of Exceptional Student Education and Student Services, through Federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B, IDEA, Part B Preschool and State General Revenue Funds.*

**Registration Form**  
**Understanding Data**

**Sponsored by FDLRS Heartland – Lake Placid, Florida**  
**Class Location: Heartland Educational Consortium – Training Room A**  
**US Hwy 27 N Lake Placid, Florida**

**Registration Deadline May 14, 2010**  
**Time: 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM**

Please print name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ ESE  Yes  No

Teaching Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  Alternate e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_  Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email addresses and phone numbers are requested so the course instructor can contact you, if needed.  
Please check (  ) in the box above, the best way to contact you.

I will use this training in the following way(s):

- To understand school-wide data and use it to improve instruction at my school
- To understand classroom data and use it to guide instruction in my classroom
- To understand individual data and use it to differentiate instruction for my students.

**I understand that in order to receive professional development credit for this course, I must attend the complete presentation and the required follow-up assignments in a timely manner.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax to FDLRS Heartland at 863-531-0425**

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# Understanding Attention Deficit Disorder

By: Marshall L. Teitelbaum, M.D.

**C**ontrary to what you might think, parents are often relieved when their child is diagnosed with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (A-D/HD). That's because the diagnosis usually comes after months or even years of confusing, troubling and frustrating behavior from the child – particularly at school. Although A-D/HD has nothing to do with intelligence, it frequently disrupts the child's capability to pay attention in class.

Most of the time, the treatment for A-D/HD is simple. Children and adolescents suffering from A-D/HD usually experience improvement from a combination of medication, such as Ritalin, and therapy. Once treatment has begun and parents get past their initial anxiety about medications, they often experience a great sense of relief knowing that the problem is typically so easily treated.

But the disorder is more than just an attention span or hyperactivity problem. In fact, many children, especially girls, have A-D/HD with

minimal or no hyperactivity. Sometimes kids with A-D/HD will exhibit hyperactive behavior at school, but not (or less so) during activities that are intensely enjoyable or interesting to them. Therefore, it is important that the disorder be accurately diagnosed by a psychiatrist or mental health professional. In addition, the sooner treatment is started, the lower the risk of future problems.

Do not assume that because you had the same problems as a child that your child will outgrow it as was once thought. The disorder tends to run in families, and it is not uncommon for parents to discover in the course of their child's A-D/HD treatment that they can benefit from it as well.

Here is a list of the common problems and symptoms for children and adolescents, followed by a list of common symptoms in adults when left untreated.

## Common Symptoms in Children And Adolescents



- Easily frustrated
- Poor attention span
- Gets in trouble at school for not staying seated and for excessive fidgeting
- Intense and/or frequent temper tantrums
- Homework takes longer to do than you think it should
- Your child has been asked to leave his or her daycare or school due to behavioral disruption
- Grades vary, and gradually decrease from one year to the next.

## Common Problems Children Develop



- Poor social skill development (i.e., other kids see as weird or goofy)
- Poor self-esteem (i.e., feels dumb in comparison with classmates)
- Increased risk of quitting classes, dropping out of school
- Increased risk of severe oppositional and defiant behavior
- Increased risk of substance abuse

- Increased risk of antisocial and later criminal behavior
- Lower career achievement than their potential could have allowed
- Increased risk of childhood, adolescent and adult depression.

## Common Symptoms In Adults



- Start multiple work or housework projects, but rarely finishes most of them
- Always in a hurry, so days of getting to sit around and relax drive you crazy
- Rarely can read a book unless it is intensely interesting

- Frequently late for appointments
- Loves periods of high stress which burn others out
- Finds relationships exciting at first, but boring once the chase is over, so rarely maintains them. At the same time, often is lonely and desires a relationship
- Frequent problems with boss or significant other for being easily distracted from important subjects/discussions
- Often is overly talkative and interrupts others to the point of being annoying. Often has a child with school problems (and likely with A-D/HD). The diagnosis of children frequently leads to the diagnosis in their adult family members.

## School Excuses from Parents

(<http://www.funny2.com/schoolexcuses.htm>)

- *My son is under a doctor's care and shouldn't take PE today. Please excuse him.*
- *Diane was late on Wednesday. She fell asleep on the bus and was taken back to the bus yard.*
- *Please excuse my son from being absent yesterday, because there is a river in our house.*
- *Tommy wasn't in school yesterday because he thought it was Saturday.*
- *Please excuse Jimmy from being. It was his father's fault.*



U.S. Department of Education  
Office of Special Education Programs  
*Promoting Educational Excellence  
for all Americans*

## Get Your Endorsement to Teach Students with Severe Disabilities (Including Autism and Deaf-Blindness)

### Enrollment Information

**University of Florida**  
Dr. Diane Ryndak  
Email: [dryndak@coe.ufl.edu](mailto:dryndak@coe.ufl.edu)  
Phone: 352-392-0701

**Florida Gulf Coast University**  
Dr.Carolynne Gischel  
Email: [cgischel@fgcu.edu](mailto:cgischel@fgcu.edu)  
Phone: 239-590-7795

**Florida State University**  
Dr. Bruce Menchetti  
Email: [bmenchet@fsu.edu](mailto:bmenchet@fsu.edu)  
Phone: 850-644-4880

**University of North Florida**  
Dr. Len Roberson  
Email: [lroberso@unf.edu](mailto:lroberso@unf.edu)  
Phone: 904-620-2185

**University of South Florida**  
Dr. Phyllis Jones  
Email: [pjones@sar.usf.edu](mailto:pjones@sar.usf.edu)  
Phone: 941-359-4395

**University of West Florida**  
Dr. Robert Markowitz  
Email: [rmarkowitz@uwf.edu](mailto:rmarkowitz@uwf.edu)  
Phone: 850-474-2158

Two courses toward a State Endorsement in Severe Disabilities will be offered this Summer semester through distance education technology in a joint program between UF, FSU, USF, FGCU, UWF and UNF. These *distance education courses and student financial support* will be available for current graduate students and current teachers interested in applying for an endorsement in severe disabilities.

These are 3-credit hour courses that will include both web-based instruction and interactive sessions across the State, using the Internet. All interactive sessions will be scheduled after school hours (5-8pm).

**Financial assistance** is available for a limited number of participants. If you would like to be considered for financial assistance, please contact your university's representative listed to the left.

### Courses for Summer 2010

#### Secondary Education and Transition for Students with Severe Disabilities

Tuesdays & Thursdays 5-8pm

- Dr. Bruce Menchetti

Summer A:

May 10 - June 18

#### Advanced Curriculum & Instruction for Students with Severe Disabilities in Inclusive Settings

Wednesdays 5-8pm

- Dr. Diane Ryndak

Summer C:

May 10 - August 6



# FREE



## **Gifted Education Class** Required Class for Your Gifted Endorsement **Nature and Needs Of the Gifted Student**

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**T**his course will provide an overview of the evolution of gifted education on the national and state level. Major events affecting gifted education are described as well as major policies and procedures governing gifted education. Cognitive, social, and emotional characteristics common to individuals who are gifted are identified along with strategies that can be used to deal with these students. The class will use a wide variety of instructional techniques which include multimedia, outside research, class discussion, and individual projects along with guest speakers.

**Instruction will take place at  
Sebring Middle School  
500 East Center Street  
8:00AM- 3:00 PM  
Monday June 28<sup>th</sup> –Friday July 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Internet/Independent  
Assignments to  
Complete 60 Hours of  
Inservice Credit.**

**Requirements:  
Classroom attendance,  
Independent  
Homework and class  
projects, post test,**

**Appropriate Participants: Teachers  
of the gifted, Advanced Academics,  
General Education Teachers K-12,**

To register please fax the attached Form to  
**FDLRS Heartland 863-531-0425**

**Registration Form**  
**Nature and Needs Of the Gifted Student**  
*Sponsored by FDLRS Heartland*  
*Lake Placid, Florida*

**Location: Sebring Middle School**  
**500 East Center Street**  
**8:00AM- 3:00 PM**  
**Monday June 28<sup>th</sup> –Friday July 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Please print name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_ ESE ( ) Yes ( ) No

Teaching Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Primary e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Alternate e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

( ) Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email addresses and phone numbers are requested so course instructor can contact you, if needed.  
Please check ( ✓ ) in the box above, the best way to contact you.

I will use this course for the following: (Please check only one)

( ) To renew my teaching certificate

( ) To add the Gifted Endorsement to my certificate

( ) To satisfy the in-service hours required as I am teaching out of field

( ) To target an area on my Professional Development Plan

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Fax to FDLRS Heartland at 863-531-0425***

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# PLEASE HELP US PLAN



As we plan our professional development calendar for next year, it would be very helpful for us to know what resources you currently have at your school and in your classroom.

Please take five minutes to complete a brief survey at

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C6B9ZDK>.

**\*\*\*If you provide identifying information, we have a small (but extremely valuable) reward for you\*\*\***

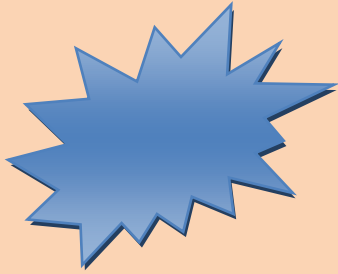
# Share with your parents...

## Free Conference On Behavior Management

**W**e are excited to announce our annual parent conference for this year. Ellie Weber from CARD will be presenting Parenting with Positive Behavior Support (PBS) at the Heartland Educational Consortium (HEC) on May 18, 2010 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. This is an incredible opportunity for parents to be trained on the PBS system to support the efforts the schools are implementing in managing student behavior.

This parent conference is free to parents of students in DeSoto, Highlands, Glades, and Hendry counties. This workshop will discuss how to incorporate Positive Behavior Support in managing behavior at home, learn how to use communication strategies and implement visual strategies to prevent challenging behavior and will include an opportunity to create visual graphs and charts parents can take to use at home.

Teachers, pass this valuable information on to any parents that may benefit by this workshop. Flyers will be available in your school office, or parents may call FDLRS 863-531-0444 ext. 228 or ext. 234



## **FDLRS HEARTLAND**



**WISHES AL THE  
MOTHERS OUT  
THERE A...**

*Happy  
Mother's  
Day!*

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