



Pacific Coast Speech Services, Inc.

Serving Southern California Schools for 25 Years.

February 2016

**We're over the winter hump, and creeping toward spring!
Hooray for new life and new ideas on how to be more efficient
and effective clinicians!**

FEATURED WEBSITE: Cult of Pedagogy

[The Cult of Pedagogy website](#) has an empowering article with advice to new teachers on building skills/job satisfaction called [Find Your Marigold](#). While it is directed to those new to the field, we have become invested in its philosophy, and marigolds have become part of our lexicon!

When we delved deeper into the Cult of Pedagogy, we found a number of insightful resources and links, including [8 things I Know for Sure About Middle School Kids](#) and [The Life Altering Power of Being a Dork](#) - with fabulous thoughts for our kids with special interests. There are also training videos on common [Ed Tech Tools](#) for a small purchase fee.

FEATURED IEP RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION: "Is Your Plan Evidenced Based?"

Well- read parents and advocates periodically ask the question, "Is Your Plan Evidence Based?" How do you respond? Here are some data points for your reference. ASHA has a [descriptive graphic of the triangle of Evidence Based Practice](#). It can be helpful to share this information with parents.

Side One: External Scientific Evidence

The first side of the triangle represents external scientific evidence that dictates why and how we plan to assist students. Graduate school course work and supervision, plus the stringent requirement for ongoing continuing education, ensure that SLPs stay current on the scientific evidence. The focus is on evaluating and applying this evidence in daily practice. For more data, SLPs can consult the American Speech & Hearing Association website section on EvidenceBased Practice. There is a [library of disorders typically treated](#) with references for: scholarly articles, external scientific evidence, clinical expertise, and client perspectives.

For information in addition to ASHA, publishers of products often provide research based evidence. There are other resources available online such as [Home Sweet Speech Room's](#) handy reference tool for questions on specific techniques used on a regular basis.

Side Two: Student/Parent Perspectives

EBP demands more than just scientific evidence: techniques must address the needs of a specific student. The second side of the triangle considers behavior, the student's/family's values, culture, linguistic background, learning style, and classroom support. For example, for a male fifth grader who is distractible in groups, a short, individual session may allow him to miss less classroom time while encouraging focused practice. This may work well if he has indicated that he prefers to miss as little class as possible, and is open to individual work.

Side Three: Clinical Expertise/Expert Opinion

Professionally, SLPs continually monitor their students for patterns of improvement and modify their plans based on data. As we see patterns in individual students, as well as groups of students on our case load, we identify what

works/doesn't work for our particular setting and skill set. We also gather knowledge from others on the treatment team, including parents. These observations play a role in the shaping of goals and objectives.

FEATURED EVALUATION TOOLS

Are you looking for a quick, non-standardized tool to informally assess social language skills such as story retell, theory of mind, tone of voice, or social problem solving? [The Social Language Informal Assessment TPT Tool](#) from Super Power Speech is a bargain at \$10. It is very helpful for screening a variety of areas. The test is broken into two parts for K-2 and 3-5 students and is a quick way to create annual goals for social skills. A color printer is necessary for the pictures, which can then be laminated for multiple administrations. It is very easy to administer.

Need a basic test description for a report? Here is the direct link to [90 plus test descriptions for common and less common speech and language therapy assessment tools](#). Thank you, Home Speech Home!

FEATURED WEBSITE: Kahoot!

[Kahoot!](#) is a free website where you/fellow users/students can easily create game-based quizzes with words and pictures. For example, one quiz addresses "Thinking Bubble or Talking Bubble." A scene pictured has two students on a playground and a comment displayed, "That's a really bad haircut." Students use their own internet linked device to vote on whether a comment is for their "Thinking Bubble or their "Talking Bubble."

The teacher device - iPad, Smart board, computer - displays the votes, and students achieve scores for accurate answers. What a great tool for engaging small groups or whole classrooms! Six million

quizzes are posted, with a keyword search available. The only “downside” is that you need at least 2 internet-based devices, one to display the quiz, and at least one for students’ responses.

CSHA ANNUAL CONVENTION-ANAHEIM

The annual convention will be in Anaheim this year (location change) from April 28 – May 1, 2016. Hotel rooms are filling up very quickly, and the actual convention registration is now open. [Here’s the registration link!](#) Hurry – they sold out very early last year!

Pacific Coast Speech Services will be at Tabletop 10 with helpful handouts for Clinical Fellows, SLP swag, and raffle prizes!

RESOURCES FOR CLINICAL FELLOWS AND THEIR SUPERVISORS

In addition to the [resources on our website](#), Pacific Coast Speech Services has additional emails for graduate students who are investigating clinical fellowships and planning for the future. If you work with a graduate student and would like them to receive our emails, please forward this newsletter to them. They are welcome to [subscribe](#). Be sure to tell them to put their graduation month and year in the comments, so we know they would like the CF series!

THANK YOU!

[The Directors of Pacific Coast Speech Services](#), Annette Crotty and Louise Valente, as well as our staff, would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our district and non public school administrators and clinicians/teachers. We learn from each school placement, and can’t express enough how much we

appreciate your support. If we can help you, please don't hesitate to contact us!

JOKES FOR KIDS

We know your favorite part of our newsletter is the jokes, here are some of our favorites recently tweeted [@PCSSinSoCal](#).

Where do sheep go on vacation? The Baaaaaaahamas.

Why is it okay to eat donuts in church? Because they are holy.

Why didn't the lifeguard rescue the hippie? He was too far out man!

What do you call your Grandma on speed dial? Instagram!
