



JERILYN KENDIG

IFAPA Peer Liaison

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**I UNDERSTAND...
I AM A FOSTER PARENT TOO**

IFAPA recognizes that foster parents often need the perspective of peers during the foster parenting and adoption experience.

I can provide support and assist you with questions regarding:

- Licensing requirements
- Training needs
- Respite care
- Behavior challenges
- Working with birth families
- Confidentiality issues
- And much more!



www.ifapa.org



Understanding Individualized Education Programs

What is an IEP?

A federal law called the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA) requires that public schools create an IEP for every child receiving special education services. Kids from age 3 through high school graduation or a maximum age of 22 (whichever comes first) may be eligible for an IEP.

The IEP is meant to address each child's unique learning issues and include specific educational goals. It is a legally binding document. The school must provide everything it promises in the IEP.

Here's a quick look at what an IEP must include, by law:

- A statement of your child's present level of performance (PLOP)—this is how your child is doing in school now
- Your child's annual educational goals
- Special education supports and services that the school will provide to help your child reach goals
- Modifications and accommodations the school will provide to help your child make progress
- Accommodations your child will be allowed when taking standardized tests
- How and when the school will measure your child's progress toward annual goals
- Transition planning that prepares teens for life after high school

Who qualifies for an IEP?

Two things must happen before a child can get special education services.

1. An evaluation. Parents, teachers, a counselor, a doctor or anyone else who suspects a child is struggling can request an evaluation. The school psychologist and other professionals may give your child various tests. They also may observe your child in the classroom. Keep in mind that a physician or another medical professional—not the school—diagnose medical conditions, including ADHD.

2. A decision. The IEP team, which includes parents and school officials, decides whether or not your child needs special education services in order to learn the general education curriculum. IDEA says that having any of 13 disabilities: autism, deaf-blindness, deafness, emotional disturbance, hearing impairment, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment including ADHD, specific learning disability such as dyslexia and others, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury or visual impairment *may* qualify a child for special education. The school and parents review the evaluation and determine whether the results show that your child needs services and supports.

If the IEP team agrees that your child needs services, then the next step is to create an IEP. If your child is found ineligible, you can still try to get services for your child. For instance, you might pursue a 504 plan. The IEP team creates the plan.

If you feel your child needs additional help in school, ask. Advocate. Be their voice. Help is available!

NEWS FROM YOUR IFAPA PEER LIAISON

Foster, adoptive and kinship parents can sign up for a class* by completing our [TRAINING REGISTRATION FORM](#) or by calling our office at 800-277-8145 ext. 1. IFAPA will follow-up within two business days to confirm your enrollment in the class.

SEPTEMBER TRAININGS

Date & Time	Name of Training & Trainer	Credit	Location
Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016 (9am-12:15pm)	Love is All You Need? (Cultural Responsive Parenting) (Tammera Bibbins, MSW)	3 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Cntr 6864 NE 14th Street, Suite 5
Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016 (1:15pm-4:30pm)	Why Can't They Stop: Addiction and New Drug Trends (Bobbie Jo Sheridan, LBSW)	3 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Cntr 6864 NE 14th Street, Suite 5
Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016 (9am-4:30pm)	Counteracting the Effects of Disrupted Attachment with Love, Attunement & Play (Dorothy Lifka)	6 hours	Ankeny IFAPA Training Cntr 6864 NE 14th Street Suite 5



FALL 2016 CONFERENCE

Friday & Saturday,
October 28 & 29

Marriott & Conference Center in Coralville

A SAMPLE OF THE WORKSHOP TOPICS OFFERED AT THE FALL CONFERENCE:

- Building the Best Team
- Supporting Healthy Transitions
- Human Trafficking
- Psychotropic Medications
- Supporting LGBTQ Youth
- Effects of Disrupted Attachment
- Keeping up with the Drug Culture
- Helping Kids Make & Keep Friends
- How Trauma Impacts Kids in Care
- Identity Formation in Adoption
- Culturally Responsive Parenting
- Understanding Learning Disorders

[VIEW CONFERENCE BROCHURE](#)

Notice to Foster Parents

Required Training Now Available

PLEASE complete the Reasonable & Prudent Parent Standard training at your earliest convenience. The **DEADLINE** is September 30, 2016!

For additional information and to view the RPPS training video, [CLICK HERE](#).

Oobleck:

The Dr. Seuss Science Experiment

Step 1: Materials

All you need is corn starch and food coloring and the food coloring is optional.

Recipe:

- 1 cup water
- 1.5-2 cups corn starch
- a few drops of food coloring of your choice

Step 2: Mix it up!

Start with the water in a bowl and start adding the corn starch to it. You can use a spoon at first, but pretty quickly you'll be moving on to using your hand to stir it up.

When you're getting close to adding 1.5 cups of the corn starch, start adding it in more slowly and mixing it in with your hand. The goal is to get a consistency where the Oobleck reaches a state that is the liquid and yet solid.

Sometimes you will need more cornstarch. If so, keep adding more than the initial 1.5 cups. If you add too much, just add some water back into it. You will have to play with it to see what feels appropriately weird.

Step 3: Add food coloring!

Now that the Oobleck is just right, it's time to add some color. We save this step for later because it's a fun challenge to stir in the food coloring. You will have to slowly mix the Oobleck around to get it thoroughly mixed.

Step 4: Play with it!

Now go ahead and play with the Oobleck. That's the point of all this and you can find lots of tricks to try out.

