



March 2012

Occupational Therapy
Speech Therapy

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3905 University Drive
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Serving children from
birth to adolescence

Using therapy to improve
conditions such as:

- Delayed Speech
- Developmental Coordination Disorder
- Speech Impairments
- Non-communicative Speech
- Oral/Verbal Apraxia
- Language Disorders
- Feeding Difficulties
- Autism/Asperger's/PDD
- Developmental Delay
- Cerebral Palsy
- Sensory Integration Disorders
- Sensory Modulation Disorders
- Handwriting Impairments
- Fine & Gross Motor Delays

A Private, Independent
Provider



www.EmergeAChildsPlace.com



S.O.S.

My Child is a Problem Eater!



Bonnie Hacker, MHS, OTR/L
Founder / Director

For some children, picky eating may be a typical phase. However, for others, picky eating can become a significant area of concern. For these children, family stress mounts as every meal becomes a battle. If picky eating is not resolved, it can become a larger problem as the child develops.

Childcare professionals and parents should know about a playful solution that works for many different feeding difficulties, the S.O.S. Method. The S.O.S. (Sensory-Oral-Sequential) Method expands each child's food repertoire, improves oral motor skills necessary for efficient self-feeding, and develops socially acceptable feeding behaviors that will increase a child's comfort with eating both in the home and in the community.

The program focuses on increasing a child's comfort level exploring and learning about the different properties of foods including texture, taste, smell, and consistency. The S.O.S. Method follows a systematic desensitization hierarchy to develop skills and behaviors that are necessary for children to eat a varied and healthy diet. For instance, a child's program may begin with working on tolerating food being in the room, then food being in the child's proximity, then touching, then tasting, then variations in sensory properties of the food.

At Emerge - A Child's Place, each child receives an individual, expert evaluation from a pediatric speech and/or occupational therapist. This enables Emerge therapists to develop a plan of action that addresses each child's individual challenges correctly. S.O.S. trained pediatric therapists can provide individual sessions or carefully-enrolled, small groups that provide a fun, social environment for development. Programs for children are fun, and children perceive them as play. Emerge strongly emphasizes parent participation, and parents attend at least 75% of S.O.S. sessions. The goals of the S.O.S. program include expanding a child's repertoire to at least 30 different foods and developing a willingness to taste novel foods 90% of the time.



Integrating Occupational and Speech Therapy

Picky eating is more common among developmentally delayed children. For many types of challenges, Emerge provides a more comprehensive pediatric therapy approach by integrating services from both occupational therapists and speech therapists.



Please tell parents about Emerge – A Child's Place
Believing in a Child's Potential to Flourish