



Jessica Solari, Speech-Language Pathologist (M.A. CCC-SLP)

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Education:

- B.A.A. in Communication Disorders, Central Michigan University (2007; took graduate studies for the Spring semester in 2008); Minor in American Sign Language (ASL)
- M.A. in Speech-Language Pathology, Western Michigan University (2010)

Specific Treatment Strategies, Equipment, or Expertise Utilized:

- Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and Total Communication (Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), American Sign Language (ASL), aided language input, etc.)
- Social Thinking curriculum (Zones of Regulation, Social Thinking curriculum/philosophy, Social Behavior Mapping, Superflex, etc.) - attended 3-day presentation/training
- Expanding Expression Tool (EET) for vocabulary
- Fluency Disorders (Stuttering and Cluttering)
- Selective Mutism
- Non-violent Crisis Prevention Intervention for behavior/emotional impairments
- Articulation and phonology therapy (Cycles)
- Literacy incorporated into sessions (use of Story Grammar Marker (SGM))
- Speech and language for functional activities of daily living
- Voice Disorders (vocal fold paralysis and cleft palate)
- Statewide Autism Resources & Training Project (START training)

Career History:

I was fortunate to volunteer for a summer camp for 12 years that provided therapy for children with different abilities, blogged and presented nationally for three years about speech therapy, and volunteer my time attending Out and About on some weekends with children who use AAC in the community - so I live, eat, and breathe speech-language pathology. I have been in the school system for my entire career with clinical experience in the summers and some weekends. I have lived in Michigan for the majority of my life, but moved to Arizona for the weather a few years ago. In Arizona, I have supervised multiple SLPAs and was the co-lead of the speech department at one school district. I started working at L.I.F.E. in the summer of 2019 as a supervisor for one of the SLPAs and loved the philosophy and opportunities for children on campus so much that I came back full time in the summer of 2020.



L.I.F.E.
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Personal Treatment Philosophy:

I personally believe in following the child's lead in therapy, being honest about goals of therapy with each child, and finding out their interests as well as what they would like to get out of therapy. I love to incorporate both literacy and play into therapy as much as possible. Finally, I believe in a Universal Design for Learning where all children can participate and be included as well as using Total Communication with children so that they can communicate in the way most effective for them. Therapists, teachers, and caregivers as well as the child themselves should all be involved in care and progress, modeling communication strategies throughout the day with as many communication opportunities as possible.

Personal:

I am nerdy and very social in my free time, so if you see me out in the community, feel free to wave! I enjoy trying new foods, attending festivals and concerts, watching movies and television, playing video games, and much more!