

March 19, 2010

Hello!

Happy Spring!! I hope that you found last month's materials helpful as you promote early identification of autism within your community. This month's materials are designed to help you and the parents in your group as you begin to think about summer activities for the family.

With the end of the school year quickly approaching, it can be difficult to think about simple and low-cost activities to entertain your children during the summer months. Your challenge for April, along with facilitating your great Autism Awareness Month activities, is to **help the parents in your group plan early for a great summer for the family.**

A summer camp list is enclosed. While this list does not capture every camping facility in the state, information about these facilities were provided by parents through the KATC listserv. If you know of a local camp in your area, please share details about the program on the listserv, or send the information to me and I will do so.

I have included a list of ideas for summer activities. Many of the ideas came directly from parents of parents of children with ASD. Also included are ideas to provide support for your child to be successful in your summer outings.

Enclosed you will also find a "Strategies for Sibs" tip sheet. The ideas on this sheet may help parents to feel confident that they are meeting the needs of all of the children in the family.

Since the weather has turned more favorable, I have gotten back into the travel mode and have recently had the opportunity to visit several support groups across the state. Through this, I have been reminded of the wonderful work that you do to support the parents in your community. The dedication and commitment that you demonstrate through your leadership never ceases to amaze me!! As always, let me know if there are any ways that you think I could be of help to you. I am just a phone call or an email away. Happy April!

Debbie