

TheraPlatform



Dear Families,

First let me thank you for your commitment to continuing therapy with us. We are dedicated to maintaining very high quality services during this difficult time. I am very excited to get started. I have outlined an overview of the process. For each session you will receive an email 10 min before the session start time. You use a link in the email to enter the virtual therapy room. Have fun, be patient with your child, therapist and yourself.

- Prepare your child before the session by explaining you will have a 'video therapy' and it will be fun.
- Set up a quiet space with good natural light.
- Make sure internet connection is good to support video-conferencing.
- Have a reward (sticker, snacks, etc.) at the end of each session.
- Have water for your kids and coffee or tea for you.
- Stay close, you are our assistant.
- Do not expect your child to sit still during the whole session. Let them work standing, moving and interacting in their own way.

Session Plan

In general the session will take time to set up the technology, a check in time for greetings, 5-8 routines including games, practice, a closing and plan for the next session.

Session time will be flexible. Sessions will be from 30-45 minutes. Therapists will address a focused number of goals. The therapist wants your child to share favorite toys and may ask your child to find things around your home (find something red, find something that starts with b). Plan to create a bin/box/basket for materials. Include crayons/markers, tape/glue stick, paper and scissors to begin. As this process goes on, your therapist will provide some of you with materials to be dedicated to the sessions.

Technology

TheraPlatform can be accessed on a computer (Firefox or Chrome), ipad (Safari), iphone (Safari) or Android smartphone (Chrome). A phone should only be used as a last resort. Your child may do better with a headset but one is not required. You can watch a sample session at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vYuxbyeF2z0&t=23s>.

As we begin there are likely to be some technology issues. Please be patient, we are speech therapists not IT experts. We have been practicing and planning to build our capacity to problem solve technology issues.

Thinking of you

I am thinking of each of you during this difficult time. If you are worried about your child's ability to communicate about the pandemic and need visuals we will work hard to customize materials for you.