

Autism Community Connection

Autismcc Yahoo Group Responds!

Our group is comprised of parents, educators and professionals in the autism community. We welcome parents to ask questions so that together we may share our wealth of collected knowledge and insight.

www.autismcommunityconnection.com - <http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/autismcc/>

Subject: Home Schooling

Susan wanted to home school her son before sending him to school once he turns three-years-old. She wanted general info about home schooling and if the state of Illinois would help with home therapy costs. Our Yahoo group moms replied:

Susie wrote that there is no legal requirement to send your child to school after Early Intervention ends. However, she suggests that parents go through the IEP process and see what services the school district will provide. Perhaps a home therapy program could be set up. She also suggested checking with a therapy facility to see what type of state funding your child may qualify for in their program.

Dawn related to the mixed feelings of sending a three-year-old into the school system. "He's so young! He needs naps!" She said that they might find that being in school isn't so bad. Her son excelled in the school program and it offered him social interactions that he did not get at home. She suggested talking to the school district about their programs and what speech, OT, etc they might provide before making a decision.

Michelle said they used the special recreation system to place their child in a pre-school setting with neuro-typical peers. The special rec district hired the aides for their son and then she brought their home program strategies into the pre-school setting. Michelle said she did home school their son for half a year. Although he learned a lot cognitively she felt he did not get the socialization she had hoped for—even using home school groups, park district programs and library reading groups. During that time they had been using the public school for speech, OT and resource but that federal law has changed since then and home schoolers do not have access to services they once had as of 11/1/05.