TATS Talks to Professionals

Integrated Therapy Model

What Is Integrated Therapy?

- Individual educational plan (IEP) goals are developed through a problem-solving approach.
- IEP-based instruction/therapy is provided during regular classroom activities, routines, and transitions through support, consultation, and modeling with teaching staff.

Why Should We Use an Integrated Therapy Model?

An Integrated Therapy model:

- Helps assure IEP goals are integrated into classroom instruction and routines.
- Promotes collaboration between therapists and teaching staff.
- Helps children generalize behaviors in the classroom and at home.
- Enhances learning opportunities in transitioning from one setting to the other (e.g., from classroom to playground).
- Allows regular coaching and mentoring opportunities.
- Provides additional opportunities to exchange information between therapists and teachers.
- Helps in understanding respective roles and expands knowledge base.

Where Do Therapists Work with Children?

- In classrooms
- During lunch time
- On the playground
- Walking to the bus
- On field trips

What Do Therapists Do with Children in the Classroom?

- Work with children on IEP goals within the context of activities and routines
- Introduce and implement interventions
- Collaborate with classroom staff during instruction
- Model practices and strategies for implementation in the classroom
- Provide training/consultation to classroom staff
- Provide feedback to classroom staff
- Monitor (measure) child progress

What Are the Roles of the Team Members During Integrated Therapy?

Therapists	Teachers	Family
Collaborate and communicate with teachers and families to identify the child's strengths and needs within the context of the preschool environment and curriculum.	Identify the child's strengths and needs within the context of the preschool environment and curriculum.	Share the child's strengths and needs within the context of the preschool environment and curriculum.
Collaborate in developing functional integrated goals that all IEP team members can implement.	Collaborate in developing functional integrated goals that all IEP team members can implement.	Collaborate in developing functional integrated goals that all IEP team members can implement.
Meet with teachers to determine the activities and schedule for the week and identify strategies to meet the child's IEP goals in the classroom.	Collaborate on a schedule for the therapist (s) to provide activities to meet the child's IEP goals in the classroom.	Discuss with teacher and therapist ways to achieve IEP goals in the home.
Monitor and share the child's progress with the teacher and the family.	Monitor and share the child's progress with the therapist and family.	Monitor and share the child's progress with the therapist and teacher.
With the teacher, identify the best times and routines for integrating therapy activities into classroom, home, and community activities.	Problem-solve with the therapist on ways to embed the IEP activities in the daily classroom activities.	
	Observe and participate with the therapist in carrying out his/her activities, and provide feedback.	

Program Administrators - Support therapists and teachers by providing planning time and professional development opportunities, and foster a sense of team spirit within the school.

Assess

Communicate

Problem-Solve

Exchange information

Teacher

Collaboration

Monitor

Plan

Therapist

Family

Observe

Discuss

Identify Strategies