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College of Health Sciences · Appalachian State University

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Thomas O. Eller *Preschool Language Classroom*

Isaac began attending the Thomas O. Eller Preschool Language Classroom (PLC) in the fall semester 2011 when he was three years old. He had a few words that he used only occasionally. Soon after he began the PLC, he was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Isaac had severe delays in language and was unable to play with toys and interact with peers the way children his age typically can. Through his participation in the PLC, he receives individual therapy twice weekly in addition to the group therapy in the classroom five mornings each week. At the PLC he has learned how to play and how to communicate using an augmentative communication device. He uses the device at school, at home, and in the community. He has also begun to use his own voice to talk to his family, his clinicians and his friends at preschool.



Isaac is using his augmentative communication device to talk with his graduate student clinician. This was an important bridge for Isaac to learn to use his own voice to communicate.



Group activities used to be very challenging for Isaac. Now he can enjoy story time with his friends.



When Isaac first came to the PLC, he did not play with toys appropriately and did not interact with the other children. Now, Isaac is learning how to play with his friends.

Next month...

The June newsletter will highlight the treatment of speech and language disorders in velocardiofacial syndrome patients.

We offer our sincerest appreciation for the continued support of the Scottish Rite, without which we could not fulfill our mission.