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Common Myths and Misconceptions About Autism

On Demand Course

Presenter: Kelsie Bacon, LCSW-S, RPT.

COURSE OVERVIEW

According to the most recent data published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 1 in 34 8-year-old children in the United States have been diagnosed with autism. The rate of autism diagnoses in the United States has increased over the last 20 years (1 in 68 in 2010 and 1 in 150 in 2000). Despite the rise in autism diagnoses, the public's understanding of what it means to be autistic and the variety of ways individuals can present on the spectrum has led to several myths and misconceptions. Therefore, an understanding of common myths and misconceptions associated with autism is important to gain an increased understanding of autistic experiences.

Through PowerPoint lectures and videos, this course will explore 7 of the common myths and misconceptions associated with autism. Participants will leave with an understanding of the 7 myths and misconceptions and counterarguments for each.

LEARNER OBJECTIVES

- Participants will be able to identify 7 common myths/misconceptions associated with autism.
- Participants will be able to identify 1-2 counter arguments for each of the 7 myths/misconceptions.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Special Education teachers, Speech-Language Therapists, OTs, counselors, general education teachers, administrators, psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, PTs, principals, nurses, parents, and anyone who works with someone on the autism spectrum. This conference is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

If you require special assistance, please contact AEP Connections to inform them of your special needs by emailing: info@aeconnections.com or calling: 833.237.2668



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TIMED AGENDA

Introduction and Myth/Misconception 1 (30 mins)

Myth/Misconceptions 2-5 (34 minutes)

Myth/Misconceptions 6-7 (25 minutes)

Neurodiversity Resources (6 minutes)



Kelsie Bacon, LCSW-S, RPT.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Kelsie Bacon is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Registered Play Therapist. She is a clinical therapist and supervisor at The Treehouse in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Kelsie is multiply neurodivergent and specializes in working with children, adolescents, and families, including working with autistic children, neurodivergent children, and those diagnosed with ADHD and other developmental disabilities. She is certified in AutplayTherapy, level 1 and 2 sand tray trained, Level 3 OCN London accredited in Supporting Children, Adolescents, and Young Adults with Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA), and has her Down Syndrome Awareness Diploma. Kelsie is an integrative and prescriptive play therapist drawing from theories and modalities such as Cognitive Behavioral Play Therapy, Child-Centered Play Therapy, Experiential Play Therapy, Theraplay, Adlerian Play Therapy, Attachment theory, Sand tray, Mindfulness, Art, and DIR Floortime. Kelsie has given national and international presentations on working with neurodivergent populations using play therapy. Kelsie is passionate about providing support and consultation to individuals, families, and therapists regarding PDA characteristics and strategies. She is a published author and co-authored the book *Supporting Autistic Ava*, with Lynn Louse Wonders. She was a guest on the Neurodiversity podcast where she spoke on depression and suicide in the neurodivergent community. She is a current board member of the Association for Play Therapy, New Mexico Branch, and is the current secretary for the Child Counseling Center and Play Therapy Institute of New Mexico board. Kelsie is a current participant in the 2023 Association of Play Therapy Leadership Academy.

Disclosures: Kelsie Bacon, LCSW-R, RPT receives an honorarium for her presentation with AEP Connections. Kelsie is on staff at The Treehouse.

There are no reported conflicts of interest, financial, or non-financial relationships regarding this presentation.



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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFERED

- 1. CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE** - This course is offered for 1.5 clock hours. Full attendance and a passing score of 80% on the test is required.
- 2. ASHA**- This course is offered for .15 ASHA CEUs. Full attendance a passing score of 80% on the course exam and a completed evaluation are required for satisfactory completion of ASHA CEUs. Provider approval and use of the Brand Block does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products, or clinical procedures.
- 3. AOTA** - AEP Connections, LLC is an AOTA Approved Provider of professional development. Course approval ID 09886. This distance learning – independent is offered for up to .15 CEUs (1.5 contact hours). Introductory, OT Service Delivery. AOTA does not endorse specific course content, products, or clinical procedures. A course evaluation and an 80% on the post test is required for satisfactory completion.
- 4. NASP** - AEP Connections is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists to offer continuing education for school psychologists. AEP Connections maintains responsibility for the program. NASP Approved Provider #1165. Full attendance is required and a passing score of 80% is required on the post test. This course is offered for 1.5 credits/hours.
- 5. NBCC** - AEP Connections, LLC has been approved by NBCC as an Approved Continuing Education Provider, ACEP No. 7173. Programs that do not qualify for NBCC credit are clearly identified. AEP Connections is solely responsible for all aspects of the programs.
NBCC Clock Hours Available: 1.5
- 6. ASWB** - AEP Connection, LLC, #1332, is approved as an ACE provider to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Regulatory boards are the final authority on courses accepted for continuing education credit. ACE provider approval period: 1/27/22 - 1/27/25. Social workers completing this course receive 1.5 continuing education credits. Full attendance, a course evaluation with additional post test questions is required for satisfactory completion.
- 7. NASW** - This program is approved by the National Association of Social Workers (Approval #886925205-5552) for 1.5 continuing education contact hours. Category: Social Work. Course approval expiration: 6/30/2025



AEP Connections, LLC
Introductory Level
.15 ASHA CEUs

