



The Brent Woodall Foundation for Exceptional Children's
 **Book Series Give-Away**

In honor of Autism Awareness Month in April, the Brent Woodall Foundation for Exceptional Children is giving away a set of the Foundation's book series *Meeting Challenges, Making Connections* to local libraries. The Brent Woodall Foundation's book series was designed for the unique children and special families that the Foundation works with daily. These books, geared for children ages four (4) through nine (9), feature lovable kids coping with vital issues and mastering important skills. The Brent Woodall Foundation's hope is to promote awareness to other children and families who may be experiencing similar challenges or who may have exposure to other children experiencing such challenges.

You Can Help

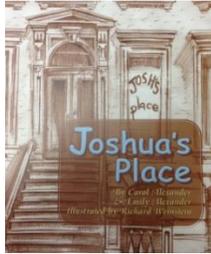
You can support the Brent Woodall Foundation and help to spread autism awareness and acceptance in the local community by sponsoring a book series give-away. A donation of \$50 will make it possible to give a set of these valuable books away to libraries in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. All donations will be utilized in support for the programs and services provided by the Foundation to families affected by autism and other developmental disabilities. The Brent Woodall Foundation for Exceptional Children is a 501(c)3 charitable nonprofit dedicated to empowering parents of children with autism and other developmental disabilities, located in Irving, Texas. All donations for the Book Series Give-Away are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

To donate, go to www.woodallkids.org/donate and choose the BWF Book Series Give-Away.



What You are Giving

Your donation will allow the Brent Woodall Foundation to provide a local library with a full set of the Foundation's book series, *Meeting Challenges, Making Connections*, which will promote autism awareness and acceptance. This series was written by Carol Alexander and illustrated by Richard Weinstein.

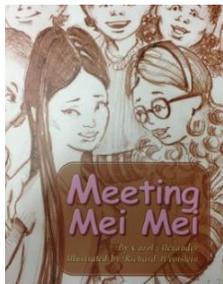


Joshua's Place

Joshua used to have trouble managing his emotions, but now he's a "feelings doctor" for troublesome pets. Join Joshua as he helps the neighborhood's most difficult pets to lead happier, more sociable lives. In the process, Joshua makes some interesting discoveries about himself and the people in his community.

Joshua's Place presents a marvelous opportunity for parent and child to think and talk about feelings . . . Through being understood and understanding ourselves, we can become deeply and meaningfully connected to other people. We can better understand the inner worlds of others and use this knowledge to help them.

— Dr. William Singletary, Child Psychiatrist and Psychoanalyst
President, Margaret Mahler Psychiatric Research Foundation

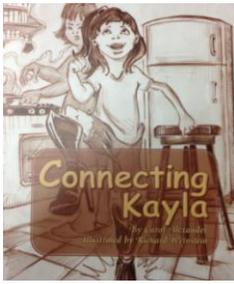


Meeting Mei Mei

Social anxiety has hindered Mei Mei from forming friendships and speaking up in class. The daily life of a lonely child improves as a sensitive teacher integrates her into the classroom and paves the way for the blossoming of relationships and self-esteem.

Mei Mei may appear shy and maybe even purposefully quiet, but she is in the painful grip of immobilizing anxiety and so has not formed the close bonds that enable personal growth and engagement with others. Her sense of herself as a shadow, or even as nonexistent, is a hindrance to her participation in our inherently social culture. Alexander shows how Mei Mei gets the help that she needs to feel pleasure, safety, and comfort and thus grow at an age appropriate pace. This is a most touching story of a girl who is helped out of the shadows and into the world of heartfelt connection.

— Ronnie M. Shaw APRN, BC
Faculty, Denver Institute for Psychoanalysis, Adult, Child and Adolescent Psychoanalysis
Associate Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center

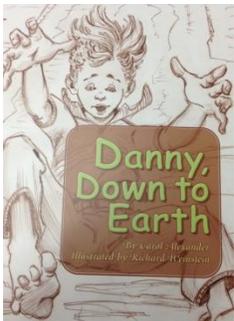


Connecting Kayla

Noisy Kayla has more energy than she knows what to do with. Turns out this snapping, tapping, “lively” girl is a perfect candidate for Sensory Integration Therapy. Through sessions with an experienced Occupational Therapist, Kayla finds a way to connect body and spirit, and turn her energies into positive directions.

This is a wonderful story about Kayla – a young girl who is a bit upside down and sometimes a little inside out. Kayla loves to crash and spin and make all kinds of noise because it helps to organize her brain and makes her feel good inside (albeit briefly and at the expense of those who are trying to concentrate around her). Kayla goes to an Occupational Therapist trained in Sensory Integration. Her therapist, Mrs. Rose, has an amazing gym full of swings, scooter boards, crash pits and so on. Mrs. Rose skillfully stimulates her vestibular (movement receptors), tactile (touch receptors) and proprioceptive systems (body awareness receptors). By the end of the story, we see that Kayla no longer needs to spin and crash to feel organized: her systems are working together to allow her to efficiently and comfortably meet the demands of school and play.

— Ann Grundstein, Occupational Therapist

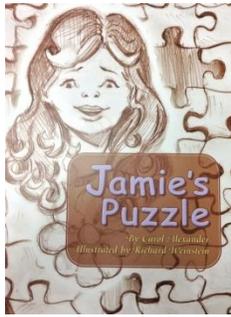


Danny Down to Earth

Sweet-natured Danny has ADD, and despite his good intentions, he can't quite seem to get it all together. One day, an understanding resource teacher takes Danny under his wing, and slowly, Danny finds that schoolwork is less of a challenge, and shoelaces stay tied.

Danny really tried his best to concentrate on his work. He began each school day with wonderful intentions. At nine a.m., he opened his social studies book and smoothed down the crisp pages with clean fingers. But somehow, by 2 p.m., those fingers were smeared with ink, he'd had only juice for lunch because he'd left his lunch bag on the kitchen counter, and the list of spelling words he'd copied at 10:30 had magically disappeared. Yes! Disappeared into thin air! Many adults are well-acquainted with the Dannys of this world – with their efforts, their frustrations, and their pain. And the Dannys know themselves, as well. They watch friends and classmates sail through life, while they themselves head for shipwreck. If only everyone could have a pilot – someone to help guide them onto the right course – someone like Mr. Reilly in this book. In Mr. Reilly's supportive, non-distracting Resource Room, Danny discovers direction and organization. Most of all, he discovers hope, a hope that can be shared by the readers of Danny's story.

— Judith Pransky, Middle School and High School Teacher in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania
Judith tutors at-risk students and is a writing coach, journalist, and freelance writer.



Jamie's Puzzle

Jamie has a unique way of looking at her world. She quite enjoys viewing the world as a graphic puzzle – there are so many patterns everywhere you look! But not everyone sees the world the way Jamie does, and this is pretty perplexing. Why don't all children want to know every last detail about the stars in the night sky or the train stations from Austin to Albuquerque? It's such fascinating stuff to Jamie. But there's no "extra help" at school for understanding those puzzling creatures, her classmates. So Jamie spends most of her time talking to herself. When Jamie joins a social group for other youngsters with communication issues, she suddenly discovers a new way of relating to peers. It turns out that it's almost as much fun to listen as to talk. And best of all, there are kids who really want to know all about Jamie. For the first time, she discovers the place of friendship in a world that is no longer quite as puzzling. In this delightful and compelling story, the author takes us on a journey through the fascinating yet puzzling inner world of Jamie, an extremely bright little girl who resides somewhere on the PDD Spectrum. Jamie can dazzle us with her memory, yet she struggles tremendously with basic communication and everyday relationships. Within the context of a relationship with a gifted therapist and her involvement in a therapeutic group, Jamie learns to listen and to establish genuine friendships. The world of other people is no longer so frightening or confusing.

— Carlvern E. Narcisi, M.D.

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