

CONTINUING EDUCATION PRESENTS:

INTEGRATING WATER PLAY AND AQUATIC THERAPY PRINCIPLES INTO EARLY INTERVENTION THERAPY

In-Person Course

January 14, 2026

Presented by: Laura Basi, MPT, PCS & Jenna Georgacakis-Nurre, DPT, PCS



Audience:

PT, OT, Speech Therapists, Developmental Therapists and Service Coordinators looking to learn about how to incorporate water play into their home environment treatment repertoire.

Summary

This course will provide information on how water play can be used as a motivating way to address a variety of therapeutic goals.

Continuing Education Credits

Continuing education credits have been applied for through the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation for 1.0 hours IL Early Intervention Credits.

All participants will receive a course completion certificate upon successful completion of the conference. No certificates will be awarded until course completion is verified on the final date of the conference.

Hosted by:

Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley
830 S. Addison Ave
Villa Park, IL 60181



Instructor Bio:

Laura Basi, MPT, PCS, Laura is a Physical Therapist at Easterseals DuPage and Fox Valley. She received her Masters of Physical Therapy from Saint Louis University and has 19 years of pediatric experience. Laura earned her Pediatric Clinical Specialist certification from the APTA in 2023 and was trained in International Schroth 3D Scoliosis Therapy in 2022. Laura has been a credentialed EI provider throughout her career and has provided Aquatic Physical Therapy at local pools for over 15 years. Laura has extensive experience treating children with a variety of developmental challenges from birth to 18 years of age. Her continuing education background includes training in aquatics, respiratory function, gait training, postural control, and family centered care. She provides ongoing mentoring to graduate students and new therapists.

Jenna Georgacakis-Nurre, DPT, PCS

Jenna is a Pediatric Physical Therapist and has been a part of the Easter Seals DuPage & Fox Valley team for 11 years. She received her Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science and is now an adjunct faculty member there, primarily organizing pediatric patient clinics, giving lectures and leading/assisting with labs for the pediatric PT course. Jenna earned her Pediatric Clinical Specialist certification from the APTA in 2023. She is an Early Intervention Provider for the state of Illinois. Jenna has worked with infants, children and adolescents with various diagnoses in a number of settings including home, clinic, and community sites such as pools throughout her entire career. She has received significant continuing education and experience in the areas of aquatics, infant treatment, respiratory function, gait training, and facilitating interactions with families.

Financial Disclosures:

Laura Basi and Jenna Georgacakis-Nurre has the following financial relationship to disclose: she receives a fee for speaking from Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley.

Non-Financial Disclosures:

Laura Basi and Jenna Georgacakis has no relevant non-financial relationships to disclose.

INTEGRATING WATER PLAY AND AQUATIC THERAPY PRINCIPLES INTO EARLY INTERVENTION THERAPY

Course Description

This course will provide information on how water play can be used as a motivating way to address a variety of therapeutic goals across provider disciplines. The basic properties of water will be defined, and the therapeutic application of water play will be described. Examples of how to set up activities in the home environment that utilize water play will be discussed and include how such activities help to target a variety of IFSP goals.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Define the properties of buoyancy, viscosity, hydrostatic pressure, turbulence, surface tension, and resistance to movement
2. Recognize types of impairments and functional limitations that can be addressed using water during a treatment session
3. Understand how to set up water-based activities within a home treatment session or for home programming using a bathtub, water table, backyard and/or community pool
4. Recognize when a child may benefit from more formal aquatic therapy

Program Schedule:

Check-In: 11:45-12:00pm

Course: 12:00-1:15pm

Registration Form

Please complete this form and mail with payment to:

Easterseals DuPage & Fox Valley
Continuing Education Department
830 South Addison Avenue
Villa Park, IL 60181
FAX: 630.620.1148

Name: _____

(This is how your name will be printed on the course certificate)

Title/Position: _____

E-mail: _____

Organization: _____

Org. address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Business Phone: _____

Space is limited– early registration is encouraged.
This course is free to attend.

Registration deadline: January 7, 2026

Lodging: A special rate at The Hyatt Place Lombard is available if you mention that you are taking a course at Easterseals.
2340 South Fountain Square Drive in Lombard, IL P:630.932.6501

Special Accommodations: Please notify us of any special accommodations you may have by contacting us at 630.261.6191.

Cancellations must be in writing. For modifications or learning accommodations, please contact ce@eastersealsdfvr.org with your request.