



# Bright Connections Occupational Therapy

Bright Connections  
is proud to offer  
The PLAY Project®

The PLAY Project® is a relationship-based early intervention program for young children on the autism spectrum and their families.

- ★ Through collaboration with a consultant, caregivers are empowered to support their child's development through the use of highly effective intervention techniques and activities.
- ★ Evidence has shown that participation in PLAY Project intervention produces significant outcomes for both children with autism and their caregivers.
- ★ Improvements in language, behavior, social skills and autism severity are among the many positive outcomes. PLAY helps to build a connected and joyous relationship between child and caregiver.
- ★ Visits are scheduled for 2-3 hours once per month, in order to provide intensive services while also accommodating busy family schedules.



Services are completed in the family home.

Following an initial evaluation, the caregiver(s) and child engage in monthly

Modeling and coaching is used to encourage and strengthen interactions between the caregiver(s) and their child.

A PLAY Plan report with corresponding video is provided after each session with detailed recommendations.

Ongoing support via phone and email is available to answer questions or concerns as they arise.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Where are Services provided?

Services are provided in family homes. PLAY Project services are currently offered within 60 miles of Berkley, MI. If a family lives outside these areas, and is interested in services, a modified contract can be entered on a case by case basis.

### Are Services through covered by insurance?

Bright Connections Occupational Therapy is an in-network provider with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Families are also able to submit out-of-network claims with other insurance companies. Private payment for services is also accepted. Bright Connections is willing to offer payment plans as necessary.

### What can be expected during a PLAY Project visit?

Following the initial evaluation, visits are completed once per month and last two-three hours. Each visit includes direct intervention with the child, modeling of strategies and techniques, caregiver coaching, and discussion of past successes and continued concerns. Videotaping is used during PLAY Project visits, recording both the caregiver(s) and the consultant playing with the child. The videos are reviewed, which guides the development of a written Video Review/PLAY Plan, including the video review, specific techniques and activities to use with the child, and a detailed assessment of the child's development. The family will receive a copy of the videos and the completed Video Review/PLAY Plan within two weeks of the appointment.

### Who would benefit from PLAY Project services?

The PLAY Project® is most beneficial for children with autism spectrum disorder between the ages of approximately 18 months and 6 years. Children older than 6 years of age can benefit from PLAY Project intervention; however, early intervention is supported by research and found to be more advantageous. Children with other developmental delays or diagnoses that impact play, social skill and language development can also benefit from PLAY Project intervention.



**Lauren Vanderlist**  
OTR/L

Lauren is a licensed pediatric occupational therapist with many years of experience working with children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. Through the PLAY Project she is able to combine the experience and skill of an occupational therapist with the passion of a certified PLAY Project consultant.



### Find out more:

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