

# Autism: 10 Lessons

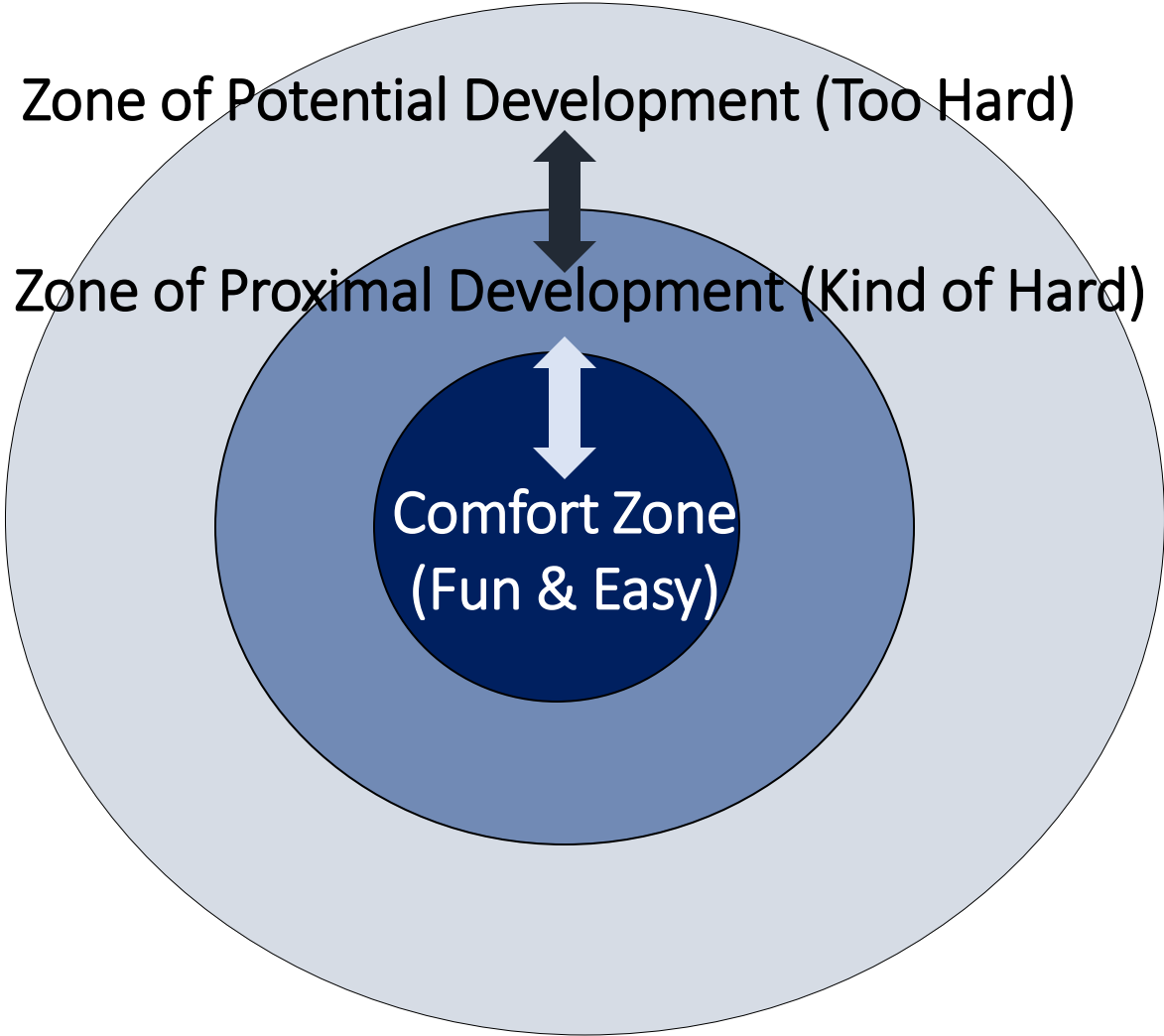
## Handouts

## 9 Functional Developmental Levels\*

1. Self regulation and shared attention (FDL 1)
2. Engagement (FDL 2)
3. Two-way Communication (FDL 3)
4. Complex two-way Communication (FDL 4) (18m)
5. Shared Meanings & Symbolic Play (FDL 5—2y)
- 6. Emotional Thinking (FDL 6—4 year old)**
7. Multi-causal Thinking (FDL 7—5-7 years old)
8. Shades of Gray Thinking (FDL 8—8-12 year old)
9. Thinking off an Internal Standard (FDL 9—13+ year old)

\*Greenspan and Weider

# 'Setting the Bar' at the Right Level



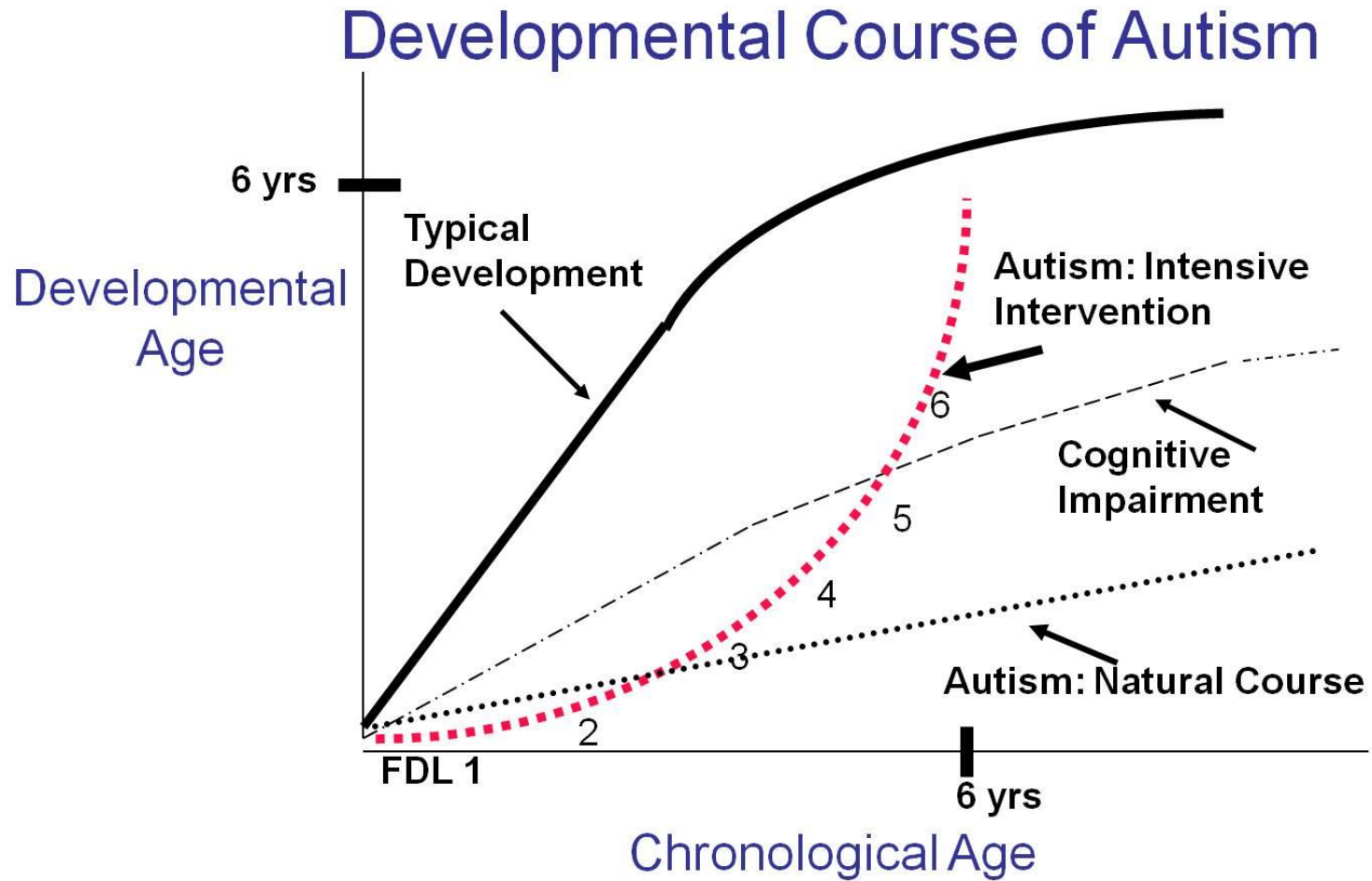
# Comparison: Intensive Approaches

Key Elements	Parent Implemented Models (e.g. PLAY Project, PACT, ESDM, SCERTS)	Behaviorist Models (e.g. EIBI, VB, PRT, ABA)
Theoretical Framework	Developmental, Relationship, & Play-based	Behavioral/Operant Conditioning
Primary Focus of Intervention	Social interaction	Language & IQ
Intervention Methods	Child centered Promote social interaction through play	Program centered Teach child skills using rewards/reinforcement
Used as a Primary Intervention	< 3 yr olds	18m-6 yr olds
Programmatic Approach	Trained professionals coach parents	Professionals (BCBA) supervise front line staff
Provider of Services	Parents	Therapists
Annual Implementation Cost	\$5000	\$50,000
Treatment Sessions	4 hours per month of parent training. Parents then provide 10-15 hours per week of intervention with the child	20-40 hours/week provided by therapists who work directly with the child
Length of Intervention	2-3 years	2-5 years
Assessment of Progress	Objectives achieved. Focus—Social functioning	Objectives achieved. Focus—Pre-academics, Language
Evidence	Very Good	Very Good

# The All Important FDL 6!

- Talking in short to long sentences
- 'Why' and 'when' questions.
  - Understands cause and effect; Builds bridges between ideas
  - Two ideas connected logically
  - Lives in time. Can recall the immediate past (what did you eat for breakfast?)
- Identifies own and others' feelings
- Recognizes relationship between feeling, behavior, and consequences
- Two thematic play
- Can carry on simple conversations
- Can play with peers
- Misbehavior as developmental accomplishment

# Developmental Course of Autism





# Climbing the Language Mountain



**Conversations**

**Expressive:  
Sentences**

**Expressive:  
Single Words**

**Receptive:  
Give/Get Commands,  
Routines**

**Expressive:  
Gestural  
Communication**

**Two Way Back and  
Forth Communication**

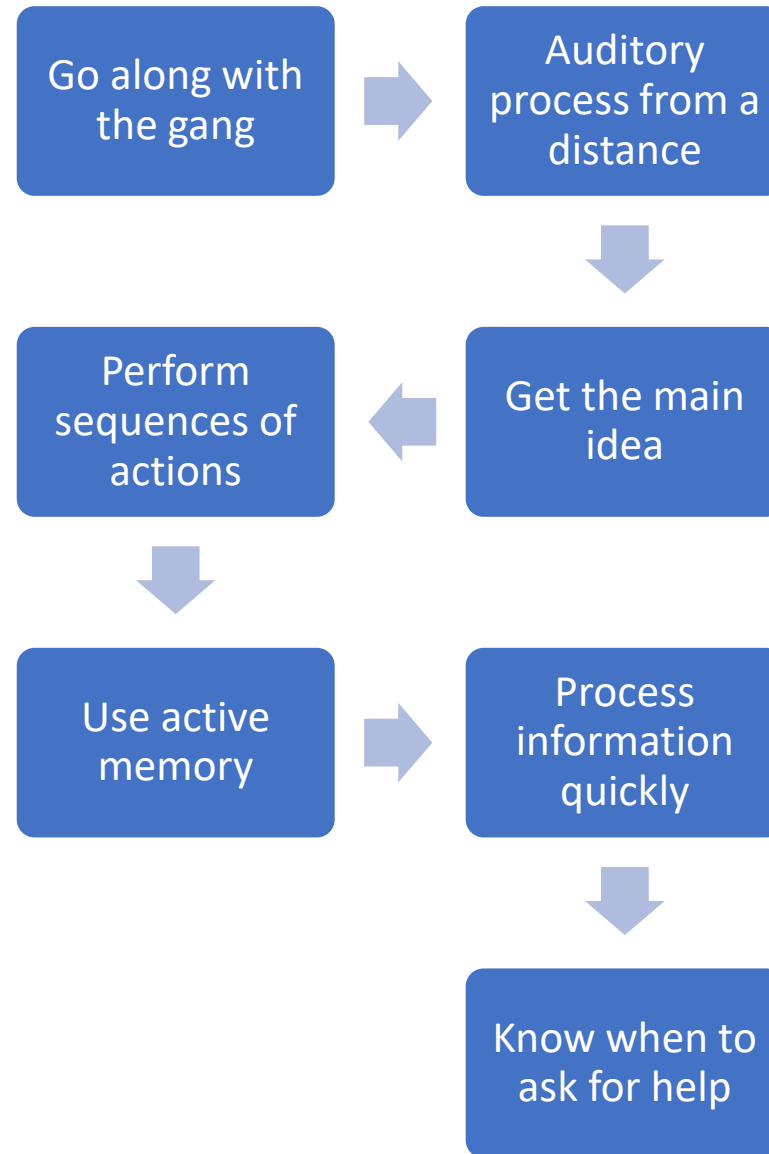
**Engagement**

**Shared Attention**



Early Intensive  
Intervention  
is working  
on these FDLs

# The 7 Habits are Daunting



# The 6 Degrees of Intimacy

Greetings and Manners

Small Talk

Personal Public

Personal Private

Religion &  
Politics

Most

Intimate

# The Big Five Questions for the Future

1. Diploma or Certificate?
  - College? Western Michigan, EMU
2. Driver's license?
3. Legal Independence or Guardianship/POAtty: Get a lawyer
  - Can they make decisions about health, banking/money?
4. Living on one's own or Living Under Care
  - Self care, laundry, shopping, cooking
  - A Family 'Trust'
5. Work or Social Security Income (SSI)
  - Part time vs full time
  - Michigan Rehab Services (MRS)