



Family & Play Therapy Center, Inc.
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PLEASE POST

Introduction to the Marschak Interaction Method for Therapists Working with Children

**Fri., May 7 &
Sat., May 8, 2010
9:00 AM-4:30 PM**

PRESENTERS
A. Rand Coleman
Meg Clark Soriano

*Approved for LSW, LMFT, & LPC
Continuing Education Credits (12 hr.)*



What is the Marschak Interaction Method (MIM)? This structured diagnostic tool is a technique that assesses the parent's capacity in four areas as well as the child's ability to respond to the parent's efforts. MIM, a service mark of the Theraplay Institute (www.theraplay.org), assesses and provides concrete video feedback regarding:

1. **Structure** – Does the parent set limits and provide an appropriately ordered environment?
2. **Engagement** – How is the interaction and attunement to the child's state and reactions?
3. **Nurture** – Does the parent meet the child's needs for attention, soothing, and care?
4. **Challenge** – Does the parent support and encourage the child's efforts to achieve at a developmentally appropriate level?

This two-day seminar is designed for the therapist to be able to learn the basics of the Marschak Interaction Method through observing a live parent-child dyad. The evaluation can be used with a wide range of issues and problems, such as anxiety, depression, trauma, and grief. It is particularly helpful for the parent-child dyad that is working on attachment and oppositional behavior. Other issues that are often addressed with MIM include foster care, adoption, and autism spectrum. MIM can also be a helpful evaluative tool when either the family or the therapist feels stuck and wants feedback on any parent-child dyad (for ages 3-12). This approach can be helpful for children who are not responding to play therapy.

Day 1. Rand Coleman will give an introduction to the Marschak Interaction Method. This will cover the above four areas of assessment, including practical application of administering MIM as well as viewing of video segments taken from Dr. Coleman's actual evaluations of parent-child dyads.

Day 2. With video equipment in another room we will observe the parent-child assessment as it is happening. During the assessment, the parent and child are in a playroom with 9 cards that direct specific interactions relating to the four areas listed above. The task for the parent and child is to complete the cards. The presenter, Meg Clark Soriano and the family's therapist will be with us watching the live parent-child dyad interacting with the 9 cards. After the assessment, the class will discuss the process and content. Later in the day, we will view Ms. Soriano and the child's therapist as they show selected segments of the video to the parents and demonstrate how to give positive feedback as well as how to point out areas of challenge where there is room for improvement. (If the planned child is sick, we will have a backup family ready or will use a role play of the child and parent.)

The Marschak Interaction Method does not replace other forms of evaluation, especially when major decisions are being made. Participants do not receive credit from the Theraplay Institute. We will provide information about further trainings.

A. Rand Coleman, PhD, obtained his degree in clinical psychology from Hahnemann University, specializing in neuropsychology. He is a certified Marschak presenter as well as a certified Theraplay therapist. He was director of psychology for a residential program in Wisconsin assisting individuals with traumatic brain injury and developmental disabilities. He worked for 3.5 years for the Devereux Foundation in PA as the staff psychologist for an autism and developmental disabilities unit. Now in private practice, his work includes neuropsychological testing, cognitive behavioral therapy with adults, and therapy for children and families.

Meg Clark Soriano, MA, LPC, FAPA, RPT-S, has been trained in the Marschak Interaction Method by the Theraplay Institute and has expertise in working with a wide range of challenging problems, particularly with children in foster care and children and families with attachment challenges. Meg is the Clinical Director of the Center for Counseling in Marlton, NJ and an adjunct professor teaching play therapy at Monmouth University. She is also Clinical Director of the A Home Within program in South Jersey. Meg has been the president of the NJ Play Therapy Association for the past three years.

Please call us at 215-844-4321 ext. 1 to register for this workshop. We are able to accept Visa and MasterCard.

FEE	\$250 if registered by April 16, 2010 \$300 if registered after April 16, 2010	DEPOSIT	\$100 due with registration by April 16 \$150 due with registration after April 16
PAYMENTS		Balance due by April 30, 2010	
ONLINE TECHNOLOGY FEE		\$25 technology fee per site for online participants	