# ortland

**SUNY Cortland NSSLHA Presents** 

## Visual Scene Displays (VSDs), Adapted Books and Partner Communication Strategies

Presented by Dr. Nimisha Muttiah

This morning conference is hosted by the SUNY Cortland chapter of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association with the Central New York Speech Language Hearing Association

#### Sunday, April 7, 2024

8:30 am - 9:00 am registration
9:00 am - 11:45 am
Lunch available to order.

Pre-registration is required; no Walk-in registration.

No partial CE credit will be given.

#### **FULL DAY AGENDA:**

Sunday, April 7, 2024 Morning Conference 9:00 -11:45 am 0.25 ASHA CEUs

Visual Scene Displays (VSDs), Adapted Books and Partner Communication Strategies

**LUNCH 11:45 - 12:15** 

(included in whole day registration, can be ordered for a fee for half day attendees)

Afternoon Conference 12:15 pm - 3:00 pm 0.25 ASHA CEUs

Orofacial Myofunctional Disorders: What every SLP Needs to Know

Corey Union Exhibition Lounge
SUNY Cortland
103 Prospect Terrace
Cortland, NY 13045

### **MORNING CONFERENCE**

#### **Time Ordered Agenda:**

9:00 – 10:15 am Introduction to: visual scene displays and implementation of low-tech VSDs – shared book reading and adapted books; how to use adapted books

10:15 - 10:30 Break

10:30 – 11:30 Introduction to communication partner training and strategies, then group work

11:30 - 11:45 Q & A



Central New York Speech-Language-Hearing Association

This morning program is offered for 0.25 ASHA CEUs (Intermediate level; Professional area)

#### **Morning Course Description:**

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) interventions benefit individuals with developmental disabilities who have impaired speech and language skills (Light et al., 1999). The earlier intervention begins with these individuals, the better the outcomes. AAC interventions can be high-tech systems with computers or low-tech systems without the use of computers. This presentation will focus on low-tech AAC as a viable option for young children with complex communication needs. The presentation will also focus on partner communication strategies that can be implemented with low-tech AAC. Lowtech AAC may be more accessible to some children because of their low cost and relative ease of production. Wilkinson, Light and Drager (2012) describe VSDs as having multiple language concepts embedded within a single scene. The scene could be a digital photograph, scanned image or a line drawing (Wilkinson, Light & Drager, 2012). Another low-tech tool that aims to support communication development and social interaction is the use of adapted books. Adapted books refers to modifying the text in a book, providing access to tactile objects, visual support by adding picture icons to a page, and textured surfaces to the book (Mims, 2009; Mucchetti, 2013).



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Registration info. on page 5

#### **Morning Learning Outcomes:**

Participants will be able to:

- describe what a visual scene display (VSD) is and client populations who would benefit from it.
- design and demonstrate the use of a low-tech VSD
- construct and apply adapted books with children who have complex communication needs
- describe partner communication strategies that can be used when interacting with children with complex communication needs

#### **Morning Presenter Information:**

Dr. Nimisha Muttiah is a Speech-Language Pathologist with 16 years of clinical and research experience. She received her PhD from The Pennsylvania State University specializing in augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). She is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences, SUNY Cortland. The focus of her research has been looking at individuals with complex communication needs (CCN) living in low-and middle-income contexts and training communication partners of individuals with CCN.

#### **Disclosures:**

Financial: Dr. Muttiah is a salaried employee of SUNY Cortland. She will receive a honorarium for this presentation. Non-financial: None