



### Quick Start Overview

The Quick Start program is a parent empowerment program designed for families with children age 2-5 who have been identified as or are suspected of being on the autism spectrum. Quick Start is an 8-session program based on the principles of applied behavior analysis that consist of professionally led discussions, direct observation of one-to-one intervention sessions, and a structured classroom environment. Quick Start was developed with the assistance of the Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center (SARRC) and is modeled after SARRC's research based Jump Start program.

### Quick Start Description

Each Quick Start session starts with a topic based discussion for parents. The discussions will focus on improving communication, reducing problem behaviors, accessing state services and coordinating with service providers. While discussions are held with the parents, the children attend a structured preschool classroom. The focus of the classroom environment is facilitating functional communication and appropriate social interactions. Following discussion, parents transition into the observation room where they watch their child's 20 minute one-to-one session with a Quick Start interventionist. As part of the learning experience parents will watch all 3 enrolled children's one-to-one sessions together in the guided observation room. During guided observation a Quick Start interventionist will provide a detailed explanation of the intervention procedures being demonstrated. All interventions are ABA based and are specifically tailored to meet the individual child's needs.

### Quick Start Program Information

Three families and their children participate in the 4-week Quick Start program. The Quick Start program will be available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-11:30 a.m. Attendance at all sessions is required. All sessions are held at the ARLearn Conference Center located at the Glenwood Business Park, 950 Hogan Lane, Suite 8, Conway, Arkansas. For more information, please call Shelia Smith, Behavior Intervention Consultant/Autism Specialist, at 501-269-7179 or Jennifer Hennessey, Behavior Intervention Consultant/Autism Specialist, at 501-514-4752.