



FROM DOCILE TO DESTRUCTIVE: THERAPY WITH SIBLINGS

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RESEARCH AND RATIONALE

- AG Bell Principles #4, 5, 6
 - Principle 4 – Parents as primary language facilitators
 - Principle 5 – Create environments that support listening
 - Principle 6 – Integrate LSL into all areas of child's life
- Family centered intervention is best practice
- Sibling relationships are important to a child's development
- [Sibling Perspectives](#)

ADVANTAGES

- Serve as language models
- Maximize learning opportunities
- Familiar play partners
- Increases use and effectiveness of strategies
- Imitates everyday life
- Fosters positive relationships
- Inclusion negates the feeling of parent partiality
- Develops loyalty and positive characteristics
- May lead siblings to choose future occupations in helping professions
- [Video 1](#)
- [Video 2](#)



CHALLENGES

- Siblings can be distractions to therapy
- Seeking attention
- Tantrums
- Robbing learning opportunities
- Parent feel overwhelmed or stretched
- Parent guilt
- Adds planning for therapist
- [Video 3](#)



STRATEGIES

- Parents foster sibling relationships
 - Incorporate siblings into play
 - Assign roles. Establish boundaries
 - Emphasize a coaching model
 - Meet the needs of each family
 - Breaking up sessions – mom & child / dad & siblings
 - Recording and then reviewing sessions with parents
 - Be realistic and patient
 - Support from your professional team
 - Seek sitters
 - Home visits or Teletherapy
 - Behavior management
 - Establish routines in sessions
 - Reward positive behaviors
 - Plan sessions with every family member in mind
 - Siblings favorite toys, books, etc.
- [Video 4](#)
 - [Video 5](#)
 - [Video 6](#)

WHAT STRATEGIES HAVE YOU USED IN PRACTICE?

Questions or comments?

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