

LEKOPALS

LekoPals is a social recreational program for teens with disabilities, ages 15 and above. Pals with special needs and volunteer peer mentors enjoy bowling, computer activities, and community outings together.

RELATED SERVICES

- Presentations to teachers, therapists and pediatricians
- Products that include a switch adapted mouse
- Toy Adapting Workshops for teachers, therapists and parents

COMPUTER/IPAD EVALUATIONS

Using a wide selection of software, adapted computer input devices and iPad applications, Lekotek conducts technology evaluations.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Fishing and Rafting Trips
Happy Tails - Therapeutic Pet Visits
Annual Halloween and Holiday Party
Lekomusic - Music & Movement Classes
Mom's Night Out
Pumpkin Patch Outing
Sensory and Art Play Dates
Parent Support Groups and Sibshops
Summer Computer Camp
Annual Zoo Day and Easter Egg Hunts
Professional Sporting Events



LEKOTEK LOCATIONS



ATLANTA - MAIN OFFICE

Northlake Business Office
1901 Montreal Rd., Suite 126
Tucker, GA 30084
Ph: (404) 633-3430

ALPHARETTA

Colony Park Office Park
284 S. Main Street, Suite 1100
Alpharetta, GA 30009
Ph: (404) 633-3430

DULUTH

Satellite Court
2250 Satellite Blvd., Suite 125
Duluth, GA 30097
Ph: (404) 633-3430

PEACHTREE CITY

145-E Governor's Square
Peachtree City, GA 30269
Ph: (770) 289-3276

GAINESVILLE

3485 McEver Rd., Suite 100
Gainesville, GA 30504
Ph: (404) 633-3430

KENNESAW

1925 Vaughn Road NW, Suite 130
Kennesaw, GA 30144
Ph: (770) 420-9889

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THE POWER OF PLAY ☀ THE POWER OF LEKOTEK



Lekotek of Georgia

Making a Difference for Children with Disabilities

WHAT IS LEKOTEK?

The word, "Lekotek," is Swedish and literally means "play library." Lekotek's mission is to include children with disabilities into their families, schools, and communities. For children with physical, cognitive and/or sensory disabilities, it's a chance to play and learn using specialized toys and computer equipment. Lekotek helps all children experience success through play.



WHY PLAY?

The American Academy of Pediatrics is encouraging families to increase play time.

- Play encourages development through exploration and discovery.
- Play provides failure-free learning.
- Play with accessible toys facilitates social interactions between parents, siblings and the child.
- Play develops a child's language, cognitive, fine and gross motor abilities.

WHAT ARE THE CREDENTIALS OF LEKOTEK STAFF MEMBERS?

Lekotek is staffed by certified Lekotek leaders who have backgrounds in therapeutic fields, special education and child development. In addition, Lekotek leaders complete training in assistive technology and play techniques.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING A LEKOTEK PLAY SESSION?

Experienced Lekotek leaders:

- Create play/learning environments to promote interactive play among family members
- Model the use of adapted toys and technology
- Select toys, educational materials, software and iPad applications to meet every child's individual needs

WHO ATTENDS LEKOTEK PLAY SESSIONS ?

- Children, ages birth to 8, who have special needs, including speech delays, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, autism, spina bifida, muscular dystrophy, hearing and/or visual impairments, developmental disabilities, chronic health conditions, genetic disabilities and premature infants experiencing delays
- Siblings, parents, grandparents, relatives and friends of the child with special needs are always welcome to participate in play sessions

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Play session fees are \$250 per year. Scholarships are available and no family is denied services.



HOW DOES A FAMILY BECOME A MEMBER?

No referrals are needed. Parents call to schedule their first appointment. The Lekotek leader meets with each individual family for a play session with toys specially selected from the Lekotek library to meet the child's individual needs. Each month, the family returns to Lekotek to play with the same Lekotek leader. The leader selects new toys and technology to facilitate the child's learning and interaction with family members. Families borrow toys, learning materials, software and technology equipment to use at home until their next play session.



COMPUTER AND IPAD SERVICES

Lekotek uses innovative technology designed to meet the individual needs of every child. iPad applications (with blue tooth capabilities), an eye gaze system, computer touch windows, adapted mice, joysticks and trackballs accompanied with diverse switches are all available at Lekotek. An eye gaze system allows the user to access the computer simply by looking. With a camera affixed to the computer, the child's pupils are tracked and he or she can move the cursor. The eye gaze system can be used with communication software, making it possible for a child who is nonverbal to communicate. With "state of the art" technology, Lekotek makes it possible for every child to experience success.



COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Parents of children with disabilities are often hesitant to enjoy Atlanta area attractions fearing that their child will not have a successful experience. With Lekotek staff and modifications, they are now enjoying Halloween and Holiday parties at community locations, fishing and rafting, attending professional sporting events, etc.



COMPUTER CLUB

Computer Club provides opportunities for youngsters ages 9 and above to socialize and participate in a club activity. Teens without disabilities volunteer as peer tutors to facilitate computer play and an enjoyable evening of pizza and fun.