



VAPT enote

JUNE 2012

Dear VAPT Playmate,

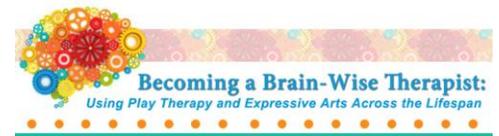
VAPT will hold the 16th Annual  COME PLAY WITH US!!  Conference on June 18th- 19th in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Our featured speaker is **Bonnie Badenoch, Co-Director of the Nurturing Heart with the Brain in Mind**. Bonnie is a nationally recognized speaker, trainer, supervisor and author. She wrote *Becoming a Brain-wise Therapist* which describes an interpersonal-neurobiological approach to therapy. She is an instructor for the Interpersonal Neurobiology Certificate program at Portland State University. Bonnie will provide a two-day workshop focusing on evidenced-based techniques to use with children, teens, and adults that have experienced trauma.

The **SELF ESTEEM SHOP** will be on-site with great resources to support your professional development and practice.

VAPT Home page with link to CONFERENCE WEBSITE:

<http://vapt.cisat.jmu.edu/>



1. Neuroscience and the Playroom

Read our VAPT Blog on the how neuroscience is relevant to your success in the play room. Cherie Spehar, a NC APT member, wrote this blog just for you.

View it by going to our VAPT home page and then click on the blog!

<http://vapt.cisat.jmu.edu/>

2. Think-ets

All our workshop attendees this year are bringing 10 to 15 miniatures to use at the workshop. Many are planning to use THINK-ETS.



Think-ets are 15 tiny, *miniature* miniatures from around the world. You can use them just the way you use larger miniatures-to create sand trays and stories. Dee Dee at the Self-Esteem Shop has them for \$9.99. Here are some ways you can use them from the THINK-ET website. <http://www.think-a-lot.com/onlinestore/thinkets-blue.html>

How to Play Think-ets

Each of the games designed around Think-ets is ideal for two or more people, ages 8-108+, yet younger kids like them too. (Just don't let the really young ones get near them as they will want to put the tiny trinkets into their little mouths, and we all know that that's not safe!)

Below find the instructions on how to play our most popular Think-ets game.

“What's Your Story?”

First, lay out five or more trinkets. Then choose one and start a story using the trinket as the subject. Ask the other player(s) to do the same until you and the players have woven an entire story. One other tidbit you should know: Think-ets encourage silliness!

Variations on “What's Your Story?”

Variation 1: Using the trinkets for subject matter, tell the story “popcorn” style. This is where storytellers blurt out pieces of the story as they imagine it.

Variation 2: Instead of laying out the trinkets, leave them in the bag. Take turns pulling out one trinket at a time, and tell the story in that order.

3. Study shows parents are forgetting how to play with their children

One in five parents say they have forgotten how to play with their children, with a third admitting that taking part in games and activities with their family is boring, according to research. But while more than half the children questioned for the report by Professor Tanya Byron said they want more quality time with their parents, one in 10 said they know that their parents feel family playtimes are dull and a waste of time.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/lifeandstyle/2010/aug/26/parents-children-playtime>



4. Journal of Play

The new Journal of Play is available at www.journalofplay.org. Enjoy!

You may be interested in "The Play of Psychotherapy" by Terry Marks-Tarlow. The author uses concepts from interpersonal neurobiology in the article. The abstract is shown below.

Abstract:

The author reviews the role of play within psychotherapy. She does not discuss the formal play therapy especially popular for young children, nor play from the Jungian perspective that encourages the use of the sand tray with Because play—whether we use it consciously or not—is a major source for implicit learning within the social domain, the author considers it a nonspecific factor in therapeutic effectiveness that cuts across all modalities. She also suggests that play bears an important relationship to creativity, especially as it exists in the intersubjective space between therapist and patient, i.e., the fertile zone between two subjectivities in which shared making of meaning arises.

5. VAPT Chapter News

The chapters are becoming play therapy hubs around the state. Some are offering continuing education credit with their monthly meetings. Below is a list of our VAPT Chapter areas and their Chapter Chairperson. If you have not heard from your Chapter Chair, feel free to send them an email and let them know if you can help start a series of meetings for child and family therapists in your area.

Roanoke VAPT

Chairperson Stephanie Pratola
pratola@pratola.com

Forest VAPT

Chairperson Norma White
norma.white@couplesandkids.com

Central Virginia VAPT

Chairperson Amy Kale Fraitas
play@mail.planetcomm.net

Rockbridge Area VAPT

Chairperson Katie Masey
kmasey@racs.org

Northern Virginia VAPT

Chairperson Cathi Spooner and Sheri Mitschelen
cathispooner@hotmail.com
shmitsch@verizon.net

Tidewater VAPT

Chairperson Kathrinn Hartman
hartmak@evms.edu

Richmond VAPT

Chairperson Jan Williamson
jlwilliamson@mindspring.com

Southwest VAPT

Chairperson – Sydney Peltier
speltier@highlandscsb.org

6. Join the APT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

You are invited to enroll in the 2012-13 class of the APT Leadership Academy. Read about the LA and complete the application on the APT website at www.a4pt.org

The APT site notes:

"The Leadership Academy was established in 2004 as an orientation about leadership attributes, the Policy Governance® Model, and how APT conducts its daily business with members."

VAPT will reimburse the registration fee for VAPT members! Contact Anne at stewaral@jmu.edu

7. Annual Membership Campaign

Here is information from APT about the annual membership campaign. We will need to increase our membership by 5% for next year's Gold Branch award! Let's meet that goal now. You can read the benefits of recruiting and joining VAPT/APT below. Join or renew at <http://vapt.cisat.jmu.edu/membership.html>

Campaign Objective

Because growth generates new ideas, program resources, and represents broader respect for play therapy, Association for Play Therapy (APT) members will invite their professional colleagues, co-workers, and students to become Professional, Affiliate, and International members. APT will reward their recruitment and retention performances by conferring the incentives below.

2 Ways for You to Win with Member Rewards

Earn APT Bucks

Win an Amazon Kindle Fire and Conference credit

If you earn 50 APT Bucks from January thru June, you will be entered into a drawing for a Kindle Fire (value \$199). Only one Kindle Fire will be awarded and the drawing will occur on July 10.

If you earn 100 APT Bucks from January thru June, you will be entered into a drawing for a Kindle Fire AND receive a \$200 credit for our 2012 Conference. Credit is non-transferable, non-refundable, and valid only for workshop fees. Limit **one credit per person**.

Branch Bash

VAPT is number two nationally to get the Branch Bash--Let's shoot for number 1!
APT challenged the state branches to increase their membership by at least 25% between January and June. Right now, VAPT needs 17 new members to reach the minimum 25% point. Let's see if we can accomplish this challenge and win \$500 worth of food and beverage at the national conference!
If our branch is one of the three chartered branches that increases its number of Professional members by the highest percentage between January and June, your branch will be honored and presented a certificate during our 2012 Conference.
If our chartered branch increased its number of Professional members by the highest percentage between January and June, we will enjoy a \$500.00 food and beverage credit at our 2012 Conference headquarters hotel!!!

TENDER and FUN for FATHER'S DAY

Simply Red - For Your Babies

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xv4HOh9uwLc>

Sesame Street Dad D-A-D Dad video for Father's Day

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=e0qEn6isoPA

Playfully,
Anne