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## TAP January Activities & Events



**Celebrate National Popcorn Day with us!—Thursday, January 19, 5:30 pm:** Wear your favorite pajamas and join us at The Autism Program for popcorn and a movie. The whole family is invited for this showing of the family-friendly movie *Mr. Popper's Penguins*. We encourage you to bring pillows and blankets for lounging during the movie. Please RSVP for this event by January 16th by contacting Teasha at (217) 348-3869, x10 or [teashawalker@ctfillinois.org](mailto:teashawalker@ctfillinois.org).



**Teacher Network—Tuesday, January 24, 4:30-5:30 pm:** We invite all teachers to join us at The Autism Program for a time of learning, connecting with other teachers, and discussing how to best meet the needs of students with autism. Snacks will be provided. For more information, contact Kristin Elie at [kristinlie@ctfillinois.org](mailto:kristinlie@ctfillinois.org) or (217) 348-3869, x11.

### TAP AT CTF STAFF

Kristin Elie  
Director

Meagan Matthews  
Family Resource  
Coordinator

Teasha Walker  
Administrative  
Assistant



**Effingham Social Skills Kickoff—Monday, January 9, 6-7 pm:** At Christ's Church, 2511 S. Veteran's Drive in Effingham. This is a chance for all the families interested in Social Skills group in Effingham to meet each other, to register for the group, and to fill out the necessary paperwork. The actual Social Skills sessions will begin in February and will meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month 6-7 pm. For more information, or to register for the January 9th kickoff, contact Teasha at (217) 348-3869, x10 or [teashawalker@ctfillinois.org](mailto:teashawalker@ctfillinois.org).



**Effingham SibShop Kickoff—Monday, January 23, 6-7 pm:** At Christ's Church, 2511 S. Veteran's Drive in Effingham. This is a chance for all the families interested in SibShop in Effingham to meet each other, to register for the group, and to fill out the necessary paperwork. The actual SibShop sessions will begin in February and will meet each month as follows: 6-10 year olds will meet on the 2nd Monday of each month from 6-7 pm, and 11-14 year olds will meet the 4th Monday of each month 6-7 pm. For more information, or to register for the January 23rd kickoff, contact Teasha at [teashawalker@ctfillinois.org](mailto:teashawalker@ctfillinois.org) or (217) 348-3869, x10.



The Autism Program at CTF is part of the Autism Program of Illinois. Funding provided in whole or in part by The Autism Program, Illinois Department of Human Services, Hope Institute Headquarters



### Young Adult Club of Champaign

- **YAC Party—Friday, January 13, 6-9 pm:** Our first event of the year will be held at Cathy Testory's house. There will be a social fee of \$10 per person to help cover the expenses of the party. For more information, contact Cathy Testory at (217) 722-4482 or [cathytestory@ctfillinois.org](mailto:cathytestory@ctfillinois.org).
- **Lunch and a Movie—Saturday, January 28, 11 am:** We will meet at Buffalo Wild Wings on Dunlap Avenue in Savoy at 11 am. After lunch, we will walk over to Savoy 16 to see a movie. For more information, contact Cathy Testory at (217) 722-4482 or [cathytestory@ctfillinois.org](mailto:cathytestory@ctfillinois.org).





## Other Items of Interest



### Sensory Friendly Film at Mattoon AMC Theater—Saturday, January 7, 10am:

January's movie is *The Adventures of Tintin*. (Dates and movie titles are subject to change; contact the theater for confirmation). Each

month, AMC theaters offer families affected by autism and other disabilities the opportunity to attend a family film in a safe and accepting environment. The auditorium lights are brought up and the sound is turned down, families are allowed to bring their own snacks, and no previews or advertisements are shown before the movie. During the movie, audience members are allowed to get up and walk around, dance, talk, shout, or sing. Tickets can be purchased on the day of the screening for \$5. For more information about the Sensory Friendly Films program, visit [www.amctheatres.com/SFF/](http://www.amctheatres.com/SFF/).



### Planning Ahead—Young Adult Bowling Club:

To revitalize and expand the Young Adult Bowling Club of Charleston, we are planning a kickoff event for Thursday, February 2nd, from 6:30-7:30 pm. It will be held at the Charleston Lanes bowling alley, and all young people ages 16-28 who have autism are invited. It will be a time to meet new friends, go bowling, and just have fun. Individuals who do not wish to bowl are welcome, too. The cost will be \$3.50 per person per game, plus the cost of snacks for anyone who wishes to purchase them. Preregistration required by February 1st by contacting Teasha at (217) 348-3869, x10 or [teashawalker@ctfillinois.org](mailto:teashawalker@ctfillinois.org).



**Thank You to SCEC:** The Autism Program at CTF would like to express our sincere thanks to the Student Council of Exceptional Children at Eastern Illinois University.

SCEC's fundraising efforts during the Fall 2011 semester raised \$300, which they graciously donated to our program. These funds will be used to purchase supplies, toys, and other items for our Social Skills Room.

### Useful Online Resource:

[freeprintablebehaviorcharts.com](http://freeprintablebehaviorcharts.com)

*Free Printable Behavior Charts* is a website developed by a parent and family therapist. The site is full of free printables that can be used at home or school to help children develop positive behavior patterns. There are charts designed for both younger and older children. Examples of some of the chart categories include:

- Chores
- Toilet training
- Hygiene
- Daily Routine
- Homework/reading
- Saving money
- Conflict resolution
- Anger management
- Healthy eating
- Holidays
- Feelings
- Reward certificates
- Reward coupons

...and much, much more! In addition to the numerous free printable charts, the site also contains useful articles on behavior management, school and classroom topics, child development, and many other pertinent areas related to child behavior and learning.

### Request for Donated Items

The Autism Program at CTF is in need of the following items. Any and all donations would be greatly appreciated, and can be dropped off at our office at 689 Castle Drive in Charleston.

- Milk cartons and milk jugs
- Egg cartons
- Pringles cans
- Play Doh cans
- Tupperware or other plastic containers with lids
- Used or new children's books
- Used or new board games
- Used or new puzzles for children

