

GROWING SOCIAL 2019-20 APPLICATION PACKET

Please complete the Application Packet, and return **by August 12^h**
Notification of placement will be emailed the **week of August 19th**

FALL CAMP Starts **Wednesday, September 11th**
A \$250.00 deposit is due with the application packet, all applicants

See Page 4 for Application and Scheduling Requests and Page 5 for Rates
Please note absence and cancellation policies (page 9)

Growing Social Therapeutic Camp Sessions:

Growing Social programs offer students with social learning differences a unique opportunity to improve their social learning skills and understanding, while engaging in functional, meaningful and motivating activities often related to animals, gardening and cooking (as well as other areas of interest). These sessions are highly therapeutic and are led by speech and language pathologists who specialize in working with students with social learning differences.

Growing Social Students:

This program is geared towards students ranging in age from six-young adult with social learning differences including those with Social Communication Disorder, Autism Spectrum Disorder, ADHD, ADD and those without a formal diagnosis but who struggle socially. Opportunities for older students include participating as a Camp Counselor, Community Outing Camp, or Social Vocational Camp. In small groups of 5 or less, students explore and then practice applying social learning, executive functioning and related concepts. Many camps take place on a small farmstead near Watsonville, CA.

Growing Social Sessions may not be appropriate for all students at this time:

Unfortunately, we are unable to support students in the program who have significant behavior challenges (i.e., extreme defiance, physical aggression, bolting, etc.). Depending on the student, we may be able to meet their needs through a shorter, more structured individualized program. ***Due to the fact that this approach is rooted heavily in language, it is most appropriate for students who have strong verbal and thinking skills.***

Specialized, Integrated Instruction:

Social lessons draw on a variety of social learning treatments and tools including those rooted in social development and cognitive behavioral treatment such as "Social Thinking"™. Both Amy and Stephanie have extensive experience teaching social learning to children, teens and adults in both individual and small group settings.

Parent Component:

Each session includes a strong parent component, as we believe this to be instrumental in carrying concepts over into the home and to the student's support team. A 10-15 minute parent wrap-up takes place at the end of each session in order to provide the information and concepts covered each day. Parents are highly encouraged to attend these informative wrap-ups.

Creating a Community for Parents and Caregivers:

An integral part of the vision for Growing Social is to create an intentional community that honors, celebrates and connects families. We provide parents the opportunity to interact with other families, relax, and take advantage of the fresh farm produce. Some community-focused events include a fall family harvest festival, parent appreciation harvest dinners, and Farm to Fork to Learn parent education series.

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Possible Areas explored through Growing Social Camps/Sessions:

- Social Awareness/Attention and Interaction Skills
- Problem Solving and emotional regulation
- Body/Brain Awareness
- Executive Functioning and Organization
- Independence/Self-Advocacy
- Strengths and Empowerment Lessons

Enrollment/Availability Chart (page 4):

Great care is taken in placing students in appropriate camp groups. Students are matched based on their ages, strengths and challenges including perspective taking, social language and auditory processing abilities. *Indicating your preferred camp days and times does not guarantee placement, as there needs to be a good match with other students that have similar availability.* Please be sure to fill out the availability chart in full. The more availability listed on the application, the more likely we are to be able to place your child in a group. If an appropriate group is not available, your son or daughter will be placed on a waiting list. We will contact you immediately if a group placement should become available.

Scholarship Funding and Sibling Discount:

The intention of Growing Social is that all students are able to attend camp, regardless of funding. If funding is preventing your son/daughter from attending camp, please complete the scholarship application form and send it along with your application form. A sliding scale option may also be available, please contact us for details. *Families who have more than one child attending Growing Social will receive a 10% discounted rate.

Therapists:

Amy Miller is a Speech and Language Pathologist with an expertise in working with students with social learning challenges, and who has a love for organic farming and gardening. She has worked many years as a clinician for Michelle Winner's Center for Social Thinking, and then as clinic director for the nonprofit Teach Social. To deepen her knowledge and passion of organic farming and gardening, she completed the UCSC apprenticeship in Agroecology through "The Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems". Presently, she is using gardening as a vehicle to teach social learning, independent living (including cooking and nutrition), and vocational skills to young students through adults with social learning challenges.

Stephanie Madrigal is a Speech-Language Pathologist specializing in working with students with social learning challenges. She worked alongside Michelle Winner of "Social Thinking"™ (www.socialthinkig.com), in San Jose for 15 years, created the internationally recognized children's learning concept "Superflex©," taught students age K-adult, trained teachers, parents and professionals across the country and beyond. She is praised for her creative and engaging lessons, dynamic training style for teachers and professionals, and deep knowledge of "Social Thinking"™ and related concepts.

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Service Descriptions

Weekly Camp Sessions:

Weekly camps are typically 1.5 hours per session. Occasionally, groups are available that meet for an hour or bi-monthly. Within small groups matched by age and skills, students are taught a range of social learning, organizational and self-regulation concepts and then given an opportunity to practice implementing these concepts and related skills through gardening, cooking, and related activities. The camps provide an engaging and motivating experience for students of all ages. Students are given the opportunity to increase their social awareness, ability to effectively work with others, and organizational skills in a supported and nurturing environment. This dynamic combination has proven to be incredibly successful and empowering. For older students, there is a heavier focus on community based learning, hanging out, independent living skills and facilitating social-vocational learning.

Individual Camp Sessions:

Individual sessions are typically scheduled during school hours. One-on-one sessions can be especially helpful in working directly with the student on their specific challenges/situations or in preparation for participating in a group. Individual sessions can be very effective and helpful for our students as it mimics a group setting (they have to think about someone else) and can move at a pace that can optimally support the student's learning. Individual session spaces are limited. If interested in individual sessions, please also include available hours before 3:00 pm.

Social Vocational Camp Sessions: (Available for students age 16 through young adult)

Participating in a social vocational camp at the farm, or in the community, gives teens and young adults the unique opportunity to participate in a camp that mimics a work experience, to address job related skills such as asking for help, problem solving, organization, as well as exploring the more sophisticated social underpinnings related to the work environment that can often be difficult for students with social learning differences. In addition, they learn empowerment and skills to enhance their self-esteem and perseverance. These camps are provided when there are enough students signed up that are appropriate for this format. Please indicate on the application if interested in a social vocational group.

On-site School Services:

If scheduling permits and the educational setting is open to on-site services, we may be able to provide individual or small group instruction at a student's school/educational site. Please read the On-site Absences Policy on pages 9-10.

Educational Consultation:

Our goal is to support families and their educational teams. We offer consultative services, which may include attending meetings or consulting with parents and teams regarding IEP goals, services, etc. Stephanie and Amy can also conduct parent and/or teacher trainings for parents and/or professionals to support the social learner. Please contact Growing Social directly to inquire about these services.

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Availability Chart

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____ Age: _____ Grade: (Sept 2019) _____ Gender: _____

Please check if you have more than one child who you would like to attend Fall Camp

***Please include a \$250.00 deposit with application packet. Mail check to: Growing Social
35 Larkin Valley Rd. Watsonville, CA 95076**

***Scholarship form included? _____ (yes) _____ (no). _____ I would like to help a student attend camp.**

***Donation to the scholarship fund: _____ (indicate amount to be donated.)**

Services Requested
Please indicate type of service requested:
 _____ 1 hour Individual, 1x/week
 _____ 1.5 hour group, 1x/week
 _____ 1.5 hour group, every other week
 _____ Other: _____

Session Days	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY (only individual sessions)	SATURDAY
<p>Times Available: *Please circle ALL availability (or write in other scheduling requests not listed).</p> <p>Please note: Requesting a particular day/time does not guarantee placement on this day/time as scheduling is based on a good fit being available with other students, and the day/time requested being available.</p>	<p>A.M. Hours</p> <p>1:00-2:00</p> <p>2:00-3:00</p> <p>3:00-4:00</p> <p>4:00-5:00</p> <p>5:00-6:00</p>	<p>A.M. Hours</p> <p>1:00-2:00</p> <p>2:00-3:00</p> <p>3:00-4:00</p> <p>4:00-5:00</p> <p>5:00-6:00</p>	<p>A.M. Hours</p> <p>1:00-2:00</p> <p>2:00-3:00</p> <p>3:00-4:00</p> <p>4:00-5:00</p>	<p>11:00-12:00</p> <p>12:00-1:00</p> <p>1:00-2:00</p> <p>2:00-3:00</p> <p>3:00-4:00</p> <p>4:00-5:00</p>

***Please note that traffic traveling South from the Santa Cruz area on Highway 1 tends to be very slow after 3:00.**

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Services and Rates

Social Learning Group Camps	\$115 <i>per 1.5 hour session</i>
Individual Social Learning Camps	\$110 per hour
School Based Social Learning Sessions	\$125 per hour, per student, plus travel time
Educational Consultations or observations (including attending IEPs, goal writing, report writing, phone consultations, etc.)	\$175.00 per hour, plus travel time
School or Parent Trainings	\$250.00 per hour, plus travel time
Travel Time for off-site appointments	100.00 per hour

Important Fall Dates:

- Start of Fall camp: Wednesday, September 11th
- Closed Thanksgiving Week
- Last day of fall camp: December 14th

Payment Information

Deposit:

A \$250.00 deposit is due with completed application packet. This deposit will be applied to camp sessions (less the \$25 materials fee).

Payment Options:

Weekly (at the time of service), or upon receipt of monthly invoice. Online payment options are given with the emailed monthly invoice.

Invoices:

Invoices will be emailed at the end of each month. Please note a \$25 per month late fee will be applied to accounts 30 days or more past due.

PLEASE RETAIN ALL INVOICES FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES, AS THERE WILL BE AN ADMINISTRATIVE FEE OF \$25.00 TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL COPIES. IF YOU KNOW THAT YOU WILL BE SEEKING INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT, PLEASE LET US KNOW SO THAT INVOICES ARE CODED FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES. (PLEASE NOTE, TO INCLUDE A DIAGNOSTIC CODE, WE MUST HAVE A DIAGNOSTIC REPORT ON FILE).

Scholarships:

Scholarships are awarded as funds are available. Please include a scholarship application with the application packet. Sliding scale options may be available, please contact us for details.

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Student Information

***NEW FAMILIES: PLEASE COMPLETE APPLICATION IN FULL AND INCLUDE RELEVANT REPORTS, AND OTHER INFORMATION.**

***RETURNING FAMILIES: SUBMIT ANY UPDATED REPORTS/INFORMATION AND ONLY COMPLETE PAGES: 4 AND 9-14.**

Date: _____ Grade (as of Sept 2019): _____

Client's Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Parent #1 Name: _____ Parent #2 Name: _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____ City/State/Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

Email: _____ Email: _____

School Name and District/City: _____

Current Services: OT ___ Speech ___ Resource ___ 1:1 Aide ___ SDC Class ___

Other _____

Diagnostic Label: _____

Does your child have allergies or special diet? (Please be aware that there are bees on the farm)

What are your current concerns about your child's performance at school? (Use back of form for additional space)

What are your current concerns about your child's performance at home?

If I were to observe your child at school during lunch or recess what would I observe? (If homeschooling, please describe how your child does in less structured settings around same aged peers).

If I were to ask his/her classmates to describe your child what would they say?

Does your child have any behaviors that would likely greatly affect his successful participation in camp? (i.e. bolting, hitting, etc.). Please describe:

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Additional Information

Please check behaviors that describe your child. Please check all that apply.

Unmotivated _____ Impulsive _____ Rigid (may only see things one way) _____

Verbally aggressive to peers or adults _____ (please describe _____)

Withdrawn (may hide or emotionally shut down when upset) _____ Externally distracted _____

Alloof/internally distracted _____ Anxious _____ Oppositional _____ Physically aggressive _____

Please rate your child on a 1-5 scale (5= great performance)			
Paying attention to others		Understanding personal space	
Asking questions about others		Participating in a group	
Making eye contact		Accurately identifying facial expressions	
Understanding the feelings of others		Accurately identifying body language	
Showing empathy		Greeting others	
Listening		Participating in a conversation	
Understanding what people mean by what they say		Initiating conversations with others	
Doing homework		Adding relevant comments to a conversation	
Turning in homework		Apologizing	
Keeping backpack organized		Asking for help	
Keeping school desk organized		Personal problem solving	
Taking responsibility for self		Compromising and/or negotiating	
Understanding consequences		Doing chores	

Please write a brief letter describing your son or daughter including the following information:

- Your student’s strengths and challenges related to functioning in the social world
- Describe his/her interactions with peers
- Describe his/her awareness of their challenges (e.g., Are they aware of how others perceive them, do they think that they are perceived as “different” from their peers?)
- How well does he/she understand that his/her actions and words affect others?
- How does he/she respond to everyday problems, such as changes in the schedule, peer conflicts, etc.?
- What are some of his/her strengths and interests? What motivates your student?

If you have them, please include:

- A copy of the latest IEP or school evaluations (if applicable)
- Any outside therapy reports (OT, PT or SLP)
- Any diagnostic reports or updates

Please also include:

- A recent picture of your child, and if convenient, a brief video clip such as on a flash drive or emailed to info@growingsocial.org (especially if located out of the area or are unavailable for a “meet and greet”).

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Academic/Social Learning Checklist

Date: _____

This student: _____ is being considered for social learning services. It would be of great benefit to have you complete the information below regarding this student based on your own experience.

Your name/Relationship to student _____ Grade _____

***For Teacher's:** Please return this form in a sealed envelope and return to the student's parent. (This is to ensure that the student does not read the form. We encourage families to read this form so they can see how their child's social learning differences impact them across the school day).

Please check off how you feel this student does in your setting in the following areas:

Skill to explore	Comments	Above grade level	At grade level	Below grade level	Did Not Observe
Math					
Reading decoding					
Reading comprehension (inferencing, deeper interpretation of characters)					
Written expression (teacher directed topics)					
Participation during large, class discussions					
Participation during small group activities					
Asking for help in class					
Making and keeping friends during less structured times					
Organizational skills while in class					
Organizational skills from home to school and back again					
Does this child stand out as unique in his interpersonal skills?					
Do you anticipate that this student will encounter more challenges in future school years?					
How would this student's peers describe him?					

Any additional comments (please use back if you need more space).

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Policies and Procedures

Name of Student: _____

Parent Name: _____ Emergency Phone Number: _____

I agree to follow the fee schedule and policies for my son/daughter as indicated below:

I'm requesting my child participate in the following services (please check all that apply),

1.5 hour group session
 Individual Session
 Other (please specify) _____

Camp Session Rates

- **Weekly 1.5 hour Social Learning Sessions:** \$115.00 per 1.5-hour session
- **Individual Social Learning Sessions:** \$110.00 per hour
- **School Based Social Learning Sessions:** \$125.00 per hour/per student plus travel time
- **Educational Consultations:** \$175.00 per hour plus travel time (including attending IEPs, goal writing, report writing, phone consultations, etc.)
- **School or Parent Trainings:** \$250 per hour plus travel time
- **Travel Time for off-site appointments:** \$100 per hour

Payment

- \$250 deposit is due with the completed application packet to reserve a placement for your child.
- Payment options include paying at the time of service, or upon receipt of invoice. Please note a \$25 per month late fee will be applied to accounts 30 days or more past due.
- Placement letters will be e-mailed the week of August 19th.
- Scholarships are awarded, as funds are available. Scholarship recipients and placement letters will be notified the week of August 19th.

Placement/Groups Information

Dates and Times: Fall camp begins Wednesday, September 11th. Due to the amount of information taught and group activities that allow practice applying concepts and tools, group sessions are generally 1.5 hours. Individual sessions are provided during school hours

- **Waiting List:** If there is no appropriate placement, you will be notified and your son/daughter will be placed on the waiting list. Your deposit check will be shredded and we will contact you if and when a potential group fit becomes available.
- **Absence Policy (Growing Social site):** Students are highly encouraged to attend all sessions as lessons build on each other, and absences can disrupt the group cohesion. For the sake of group cohesion and maximizing therapy time, students are allotted **1 excused absence (not billed)**, per camp, after which all missed sessions will be billed at the regular group rate. We are typically unable to hold make-up sessions. We request that families give a two-week notice before dropping from a group.
- **Absence Policy (off-site school location):** Sessions will be run in correspondence with the Growing Social Program dates. Students will be allotted **one excused absence for fall camp** and **two during Winter/Spring Camp. This will include sickness, or any school scheduled activities that fall on scheduled session**

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days. If there was no notice given, the family will be billed the regular rate, including driving time. If possible, attempts will be made to schedule a make-up session.

Deposits

A \$250 deposit (includes a \$25 materials fee), is due with the completed application. This deposit will be applied toward the first sessions of Fall Camp *****Please note, due to the time and care we spend matching students in a group, the deposit may be retained if a student drops out after receiving a placement confirmation letter.***

Insurance:

- We do not accept 3rd party reimbursements. We recognize that obtaining insurance coverage may be a difficult process and we wish to do what we can to make this difficult process easier. We strongly encourage families to keep their own copies of their invoices each month, and any reports or written updates that are provided. We don't process insurance claims on behalf of a client or family, but we can provide records if they are requested by a family in order for the client/parent to submit such claims to their respective insurance company.
 - We cannot enter a medical diagnostic code based on an educational classification alone, so please make sure that a copy of your son/daughter's medical report with diagnostic information is provided.
 - Due to the time related to gathering information for an insurance claim, we will charge an administrative fee based on \$ 25.00 per hour for any administrative requests which include copies of previous invoices, reports, therapy notes, or calls to insurance companies.

Please remember to identify if your son or daughter has any food or other allergies, or has a fear of dogs or other animals. (Note: often bees are kept on the farm).

Please sign below indicating that you agree to the policies and procedures and mail in completed application packet with a \$250 deposit to:

**Growing Social
35 Larkin Valley Rd.
Watsonville, CA 95076**

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

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Permission Form

PERMISSION FOR COMMUNITY OUTINGS (To be checked if applying for Community Outing Camps or teen age applicant):

(Check one) _____ I give or _____ I do not give permission for my son or daughter _____ to walk in the community and/or use public transportation as needed during camp sessions with Growing Social (Amy Miller, Stephanie Madrigal or other employee of Growing Social).

Please note any special considerations for community outings:

PERMISSION TO USE VIDEO OR PICTURED IMAGE & AUDIO for THERAPEUTIC AND OR MARKETING PURPOSES

I understand that the use of video, picture image and audio recording are an important component of therapy treatment. These recordings will be used for teaching purposes only and will not be used outside of the group without your written consent.

(Check one) _____ I give or _____ I do not give my permission for "Growing Social" (Amy Miller, Stephanie Madrigal or other employee of "Growing Social") to use pictures of my child for therapeutic or training purposes (presentations, teacher trainings, etc.) as well as promotional materials (website, brochures, social media, etc.).

(Check) _____ I give my permission for "Growing Social" (Amy Miller, Stephanie Madrigal or other employee of "Growing Social") to use the video, picture or audio recording of my child for therapeutic purposes only.

Please initial that you understand that other teachers/professionals may, from time to time, observe your child's session for their own training purposes. All information is kept confidential.

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____
(or student signature if 18 years old)

Printed Name _____

Cell Phone _____

Home Phone _____

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Exchange of Information

Name: _____
Parent's Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____
Cell Phone: _____
Home phone: _____

I give permission to Growing Social (Amy Miller, Stephanie Madrigal or other employee of Growing Social), to share information with the following people regarding the educational or medical treatment for my child. For school site families, either list all teachers individually or indicate "all school staff."

Professional's Name	Title	Telephone Number	Email Address

Parent Signature: _____ Date _____
(or student signature if 18 years old):

Print Name: _____

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Waiver, Release and Assumption of Risk Agreement

(To be completed by the Participant's parent/guardian, or, if the Participant is 18 years of age or older, by the Participant.)

I, the parent or legal guardian of _____, consent to allow my child to participate in Growing Social at Larkin Valley Farm or other indicated sites, from the first day of camp through the completion of the camp.

Release

I hereby waive and release any claims that my child or I may have, or which may hereafter accrue to me or my child, against Association, its officers, directors, employees, agents, assigns and representatives and volunteers (collectively "Company") for personal injury, including death, as well as all property damage or loss, arising out of my/my child's participation in this program. Additionally, I agree to hold Company harmless from, and indemnify Company against, any such claims.

Assumption of Risk

On behalf of myself or my child, I assume the risks of and accept personal liability for any personal injuries or property damage that might occur as a result of participating in this program.

Behavioral Agreement

By participating in this program, my child is expected to follow the rules at Larkin Valley Farm, other relegated site and on field trips/outings.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THE ABOVE WAIVER, RELEASE, AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT AND FULLY UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT BETWEEN GROWING SOCIAL AND MYSELF AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY.

Student's Name

Name of Adult Participant or Parent or
Legal Guardian

Signature of Adult Participant or
Parent or Legal Guardian

Date

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Student Health History

Does your child have any health conditions requiring medication, treatment, special restriction or consideration while attending camp sessions? ***Please note that staff will administer no medications.***

Please initial to indicate you are aware that camp staff or any employee of Growing Social will administer no medications.

Please provide a record of immunizations, including date of last tetanus shot:

Date of last tetanus shot: _____

Please list any allergies: _____

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____
(or student signature if 18 years old):

Print Name: _____

I grant Growing Social permission to seek emergency medical treatment if medically necessary for my child. (Please initial, mandatory for participation in camp sessions).

Parent Signature _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____