

November 2005

Dear Parents:

We are piloting a new High Functioning PDD/Asperger's Recreation Club for 11-14 year olds in the Wallingford, North Haven, Meriden, Southington, Durham and Cheshire areas.

Middle School years can be challenging to everyone **and we would like to offer our children a venue to have fun, experience a wide range of sports, events and activities all within a safe environment.** It is a great way to encourage social skills and provide a place for our middle schoolers to build lasting friendships amongst others their own age. Some events will have peer mentors.

This is a Club for kids and some parent involvement depending on the activity. We will plan a year of events (1-2 a month). Some will be with our local recreation departments, some with private businesses and a field trip to NYC too.

The best way for our children to learn is to participate in many experiences so they have multiple data points to reference along the whole life of inclusion. Our hope is to broaden their views, provide a fun atmosphere and help to encourage "generalization of skills" as part of life. We'll schedule programs in different towns to make it accessible and available for the whole range of families in the region.

Examples of Events:

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| January: | Northford Ice Skating – rent the rink for an hour (they have skates to rent)
Ski Bums at Mt. Southington or Tubing at Powder Ridge
Or IMAX theater - Norwalk |
| February | Indoor Kickball (North Haven)
Bowling Challenge (Adults and kids) |
| March | Rock Climbing – Prime Climb (team efforts)
Roller Skating |
| April | Outdoor Team Program – Environmental Learning Center
Dinner at Friendlys and a Movie
Game Nite at the Recreation Center |
| May | Batting Cages and Race Cars (Berlin Turnpike)
Pick up game – Baseball or Soccer – supported with a coach
Bike Rally on the Wallingford or Cheshire Trails – Soul Friends walk |
| June | Rock Cats or Blue Fish baseball
Golf at Miner Hill – 9 holes with coach |
| July | Swim Party
Cheshire Fitness – Stay in Shape Group Event or Blue Man Group - NYC |
| August | OFF |
| September | Flag Football Sundays – coach provided
UCONN Football game – tailgate before, rent a skybox or get a series of tickets |
| October | Lake Compounce – haunted trail
Hike – Sleeping Giant |
| November | Game Night (big games) or Talent Show
Ballroom Dancing/Line Dancing Music Nite – led by a specialist |
| December | Christmas Party, Paint Ball Night |

If you are interested or have other ideas please email me @ jah@bohan-bradstreet.com. All the best:
Julie Hipp