



# Northwest Regional Workshop

Stephanie Livesay, MA, CAS, WPS Assessment Consultant  
Okaloosa County School District, Niceville District Office - May 18, 2018

## Session 1: Using Standardized Assessment Tools and Interactive Interview Techniques to Evaluate Autism Spectrum Disorder (8:30am to 11:30am)

This workshop informs participants on using standardized assessment tools and interactive interview techniques to evaluate Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Following an overview of DSM-5 criteria for ASD, best practices for how to use a variety of currently available assessment tools as part of a diagnostic evaluation for ASD will be described, including the MIGDAS-2, CARS2, and SRS-2. Use of an online evaluation system incorporating the SRS-2 and other tools will be demonstrated, including guidance in how to use online features to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the assessment process, improve report writing, and facilitate intervention planning.

Following the workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the DSM-5 criteria for ASD and how to gather information to inform clinical decision making
2. Identify how and when to use a variety of tools for evaluating ASD
3. Explain how to use the MIGDAS-2 as part of a diagnostic evaluation for ASD
4. Explain how to use the CARS2 as part of a diagnostic evaluation for ASD
5. Explain how to use the SRS-2 as part of a diagnostic evaluation for ASD
6. Identify the basic features of the WPS Online Evaluation System, including how to use online assessment tools to administer and score the SRS-2 and ABAS-3

## Session 2: Preventing School Failure Through Assessment and Remediation of Deficits in Study and Learning Strategies, Listening Skills, Reading Comprehension Strategies, and Related Academic Skills (1:00pm to 3:00pm)

Session #2 of the workshop will address the School Motivation and Learning Strategies Inventory and its tie to the Strategies for Academic Success intervention guide. An overview of the instrument will be provided including a review of the ten constructs-subscales of the SMALSI. Those subscales are: Test-Taking Strategies, Study Strategies, Writing-Research Skills, Test Anxiety, Attention and Concentration, Reading Comprehension Strategies, Note Taking and Listening Skills, Time Management, Organizational Techniques, and Academic Motivation. An online demonstration of how to utilize the instrument on the Online Evaluation System will also be provided.

Following the workshop (session #2), participants will be able to:

1. Understand the importance of assessment and remediation of learning and study strategy deficiencies for all students.
2. Understand the development, standardization, and psychometric characteristics of the SMALSI.
3. Understand the interpretation of the SMALSI and its application to the identification of deficiencies or problems in each of the areas assessed.
4. Discuss the use of interventions from the *Strategies for Academic Success* intervention guide aligned with the SMALSI

**Instructor bio:**

Stephanie Livesay attained her B.A. in psychology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She then received her M.A. and Certificate of Advanced Study in School Psychology from Towson University in Maryland. She worked in public education for nineteen years, seventeen of which were as a School Psychologist in Maryland Public Schools before joining WPS as an Assessment Consultant. In addition to being a school psychologist, she has been active in her national, state, and local associations. She has served on the Board of Directors for the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and as NASP Delegate for Maryland. She has also served on the Board of the Maryland School Psychologists' Association as President, Legislative Chairperson, Newsletter Editor, Program Co-chairperson, and several other roles. She was a member of the Legislative Committee for both the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA) and the Howard County Education Association (HCEA). She also served as a Board of Directors member for HCEA and on the negotiations committee. During the 2013/2014 school year, she was appointed to serve on the Governor's Commission on Special Education Access and Equity as a representative of the Maryland School Psychologists' Association. She has an interest in leadership development and strategic planning for organizations, and she took part in the development of the current strategic plan for NASP. She has been presented the MSPA Presidential Award for her service to MSPA and school psychology in Maryland on four occasions (2003, 2005, 2006, and 2008).

**Disclosures:**

Commercial support for this training is provided by WPS, the publisher of the CARS2, SRS-2, and ABAS-3 and creator of the WPS Online Evaluation System. This includes support to the course instructor, who is employed by WPS as an Assessment Consultant. As an Assessment Consultant for WPS, Stephanie Livesay trains professionals in the use of assessment measures and sells those products to customers. As such, she has the potential to make financial gain through the sale of the products.