



SPARK Communication™

Coaching Parents to Use Hanen Strategies



HELPING YOU
HELP CHILDREN COMMUNICATE

www.hanen.org

*Boost the early language outcomes of the
children on your caseload*

About this training

SPARK Communication™ is an intensive 2-day Hanen training designed specifically for professionals who work with young children with language delays and their families.

Participants learn research-based responsive interaction strategies — drawn from Hanen's *It Takes Two to Talk®* guidebook and program — that are known to accelerate children's early language development. They also learn how to coach parents to apply these strategies during everyday interactions with their child to make language learning a natural, ongoing process for the child.



What SPARK Communication offers

Based on current research and best practice, *SPARK Communication* offers the framework early (childhood) intervention providers need to effectively support children's early communication development by making parents a central part of the intervention process. By taking this training, providers learn:

1. The four early communication stages and styles, and how the various interactive roles parents play affect their child's opportunities to interact and learn
2. The evidence-based interaction and language-building strategies that accelerate early communication development
3. A coaching framework for involving and teaching parents so they play a key role in facilitating their child's early communication development
4. A concrete plan for applying the *SPARK* coaching framework and interaction strategies with the families on their caseload
5. A set of outstanding resources to support their daily work with families (valued at \$109 USD)
6. A common language and approach to use with other members of multidisciplinary teams in order to provide consistent and cohesive service to each family



Training components

The *SPARK Communication* training includes two full days of experiential, hands-on group training that:

- familiarizes providers with the responsive strategies that have been shown to accelerate children's communication development;
- describes how to identify primary strategies for each child and family based on the child's stage and style of communication development and the parents' style of interaction;
- addresses the explicit teaching and coaching methods required to help parents apply responsive strategies in order to facilitate their child's communication development; and
- involves participants' preparing an action plan to be implemented with the identified family.



What professionals who attended this training have said...

“ The *SPARK* training has invigorated me and I am now inspired to use the 4 step coaching framework to better serve the families I work with. ”

“ This training has increased my confidence in working collaboratively with parents so this becomes a real partnership. ”

“ I realize that I don't give parents enough opportunity to practice using the strategies with their children. Now I have the structure to make this part of my everyday work with families. ”

“ The strategies I learned have made it easier for me to connect with children who are difficult to reach. ”

Training resources

Each participant receives the *It Takes Two to Talk*® guidebook and companion DVD – world-renowned resources for supporting families of children with language delays. Participants also receive a comprehensive set of handouts to structure and plan their work with families.



Other *SPARK Communication* highlights

- ✓ Developed and offered by The Hanen Centre, a respected authority in family-centered early language intervention since 1975
- ✓ Accommodates up to 30 participants so whole teams can be trained
- ✓ Flexible and convenient – The Hanen instructor travels to a chosen venue to offer the training at a convenient place and time

Who *SPARK Communication* is for

SPARK Communication is most valuable to those working within **multi-disciplinary**, **trans-disciplinary** and **Key Worker** models to support young children with language and/or developmental delays. These professionals include:

- Early (childhood) intervention providers
- Early childhood special educators
- Special education teachers
- Early intervention administrators
- Occupational therapists
- Physical therapists
- Social workers/Family therapists
- Psychologists
- Direct care staff/Therapy assistants
- Nurses/Medical staff

Interested in joining the *SPARK* community?

Contact our Training Coordinator,
Tom Khan, at workshophosting@hanen.org
or visit www.hanen.org/SPARK
for more information.