

Through the Roof Academy

Workshop II: **The Buddy/Classroom Connection** (Café 2:00pm Thursday)

Debra Petermann, Church Outreach Facilitator
Joni and Friends Ohio, Columbus Extension Office
6000 Cooper Rd
Westerville, Ohio 43081
614-259-5257
dpetermann@joniandfriends.org

- I. How to start:
 - a. Pray for a clear vision.
 - b. Share with the Church Leadership to get them on board.
 - c. A buddy program is a much needed extension of the current children's ministry.
- II. Where to start this inclusive program?
 - a. Who can you serve now?
 - b. Set-up a Buddy Connection
 1. Start small. Choose one service time to offer the program
 2. Create an application for new Buddies.
Make a background check mandatory.
 3. Schedule a time and room for interest meeting and time for a training session.
 4. Present the Buddy Program before the church, request volunteer support, sign up in the lobby and have an interest meeting scheduled within 2 weeks.
 5. Share your vision at the interest meeting and hand out buddy applications
 6. Schedule a Group Training
- III. A Classroom and Buddy Connection Program: Sensory Break Room
 - a. Meeting a real need. Some children have Sensory Integration Issues.
Many children on the autism spectrum disorders have unique sensitivity to any or all of God given senses.
 - b. Six Benefits of the Sensory Break Room or special classroom.
- IV. Considerations of what is needed for this type of inclusion to happen.
- V. Making "Room in the Inn"- what could a classroom look like?