

Wonder Kids may not be appropriate if any of the following apply:

- If the child does not have an autism spectrum disorder (ASD)
- If the ASD diagnosis includes by history, in remission, rule out, provisional, or other statement that indicates ASD is not in a current or active state
- If the child is prescribed a more restrictive level of care (e.g. TSS, FBMH, partial, RTF, etc.)
- If the child is just beginning BHRS with TSS services or to determine if TSS is necessary
- If a client has a high amount of TSS or other 1:1 service, and it is not in the process of decreasing due to progress; child needs to be progressing at such a rate that the child should be near eliminating the need for that level of care.
- If the data for enrolled client confirms mastery of all targeted skills and needs no further treatment that would necessitate a peer group/social setting



Wesley Spectrum is accredited through the Council on Accreditation

Mission

Our mission is to provide transformational support for children and families as they strive to become more independent, responsible and caring members of the community.

Wonder Kids Locations

- 5499 William Flynn Highway, Gibsonia, PA 15044
- 121 Erhardt Drive, Penn Hills, PA 15235
- 11 Mayview Road, Canonsburg, PA 15317

To learn more about Wonder Kids or any of the other autism services Wesley Spectrum has to offer, please contact our admissions department at 724.443.4888.



WESLEY SPECTRUM SERVICES

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WESLEY SPECTRUM SERVICES

Providing high quality autism services

WONDER KIDS
Therapeutic Social Skills Groups

Prescriber Reference Guide



Strength to live, to learn, to love

Purpose

Wonder Kids (WK) is a social skills group for children ages 3-20 which provides therapeutic and social relationship interventions designed to teach and enhance age-appropriate social skills in children with autism spectrum disorders. WK is a *step-down* from traditional Behavioral Health Rehabilitation Services (BHRS) or other intensive behavioral health service which typically will teach the prerequisite skills necessary to benefit from a social skills group. WK may also be utilized as a *stand alone* service or as an appropriate part of an intensive behavioral health discharge plan.

Wesley Spectrum bases autism treatment on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) because we value quality service and evidence-based practices. Our staff utilize data-based decision making, and positive, proactive strategies in treatment. Wesley Spectrum is committed to continuous improvement in the services we provide, and we strive to create an environment in which children are able to build lifelong skills and staff are able to successfully transfer abilities. We hold ourselves accountable for treatment outcomes, and we support our clients in becoming more independent, responsible, and caring members of their community.



Admission Criteria

- Child has a current autism spectrum disorder
- Child is between the ages of 3 and 20
- Child has Medical Assistance (MA)
- Child is able to consistently attend WK, has reliable transportation, and can be dropped off/picked up on time
- Child has a current, appropriate psychological evaluation recommending a social skills group for a set number of hours (up to 15 hours/week)
- Wonder Kids screening and, if applicable, ISPT meeting must both show that child has been determined eligible and appropriate for entry into WK

Wonder Kids benefits children with:

- Minimal to no physical aggression
- Minimal to no self-injurious behaviors
- Independent toileting skills
- The ability to socially communicate at an age appropriate level
- No routine self-stimulatory behaviors that would prevent the child from engaging in session or be disruptive to group progress
- The ability to succeed in a 3:1 setting

Please note, Wonder Kids is designed for children affected by autism spectrum disorders who are not in need of a higher level of care or 1:1 support. This includes a high amount of TSS. If child has TSS, TSS hours need to be minimal and in the process of decreasing towards elimination. The fading of TSS needs to be demonstrated by the BHRS team.

Partnering with Prescribers

Wesley Spectrum partners with psychologists to help determine appropriateness for WK. We expect preferred prescribers to administer and adhere to the WK standard admission criterion outlined in this guide when conducting evaluations.

**A prescription for a social skills group does not guarantee entry into Wonder Kids. It is the right and responsibility of WSS staff to screen and assess the client upon the completion of a best practice psychological evaluation to determine appropriateness for the program. Before a child will be admitted into WK, the entire treatment team, including the funder, must be in agreement that services are medically necessary and appropriate.*

Your Responsibility as a Prescriber

-Ensure that WK is the most appropriate treatment for your client and that he/she has the ability to converse with peers in a social, group setting at an age-appropriate level.

-Collaborate with the treatment team on the development of treatment plans throughout the ISPT planning process and providing recommendations in your client's evaluations.

-Recognize that clients who are prescribed a more restrictive level of care (e.g. BHRS, RTF, FBMH) may not be eligible for WK, unless WK is a part of the current service discharge plan.

-Consider the appropriate amount of social skills to be recommended. Clients can be prescribed up to 15 hours of social skills training per week.