

# Primitive Reflexes: Strategies to Promote Integration

## Strengthening Foundational Skills

Janine Wiskind MS, OTR/L, CBIS

### Faculty

Janine Wiskind MS, OTR/L, engages her audience with her dynamic teaching style and makes intense information easy to understand and apply. For more than 20 years, she has worked as a pediatric occupational therapist. Beginning her career in brain injury, then moving into the school systems, she now operates her own pediatric clinic. Janine has always been fascinated with the “why” behind children’s behavior and the families that we treat. It is this curiosity and passion that inspires Janine to learn continuously herself: she continues to take classes and reads a plethora of books. She strives to share this knowledge through her classes and give therapists the tools, creativity, and curiosity to keep growing and becoming their best therapeutic selves for their clients. Janine has also ventured into parent coaching with an online platform to support the many parents who can benefit from understanding their children through the OT lens.

Disclosures: Financial: Janine Wiskind receives an honorarium from Education Resources, Inc.

Non-financial: Janine Wiskind has no relevant nonfinancial relationships to disclose.

### About this Live Webinar

Primitive reflex integration is a term being used in a variety of fields resulting in various approaches to treatment. This course provides therapists with a clear understanding of evaluating and treating primitive reflexes. It focuses on understanding the neuroanatomy of primitive reflexes, supporting research, and the importance of analyzing posture, biomechanics, and qualitative movement patterns. Several primitive reflex programs take a rote approach providing a “cookie-cutter” recipe to address each reflex individually. This class begins with understanding the neuroanatomy of the primitive reflexes and how they apply to natural development. It looks at the research and integrates occupational and physical therapy theories (Rood, Bobath, Brunnstrom, NDT) as these all play a large role in the understanding of the primitive reflexes. It teaches clinicians to assess the child’s posture and movement patterns as this is a vital key to integrating reflexes because a child cannot integrate if the posture is holding onto particular patterns of movement to allow for safety and stability. It then goes on to teach the reflexes in groups and patterns as they work together fluidly to promote function.

### Objectives

At the completion of this course participants will be able to:

- ❶ Define the three levels of motor control in the central nervous system and how those levels impact occupation-based intervention.
- ❷ Correlate the findings from a research study to the evaluation and treatment of retained primitive reflexes.
- ❸ Determine how the structural development and alignment of the pelvis and trunk can impact a functional activity.
- ❹ Choose an appropriate primitive reflex integration assessment to address a functional impairment.
- ❺ Select a functional and individualized goal based on a primitive reflex integration assessment.
- ❻ Update a treatment plan to address retained primitive reflexes that utilizes effective strategies to strengthen your client’s skills during functional activities.

## Schedule – Day 1 5:40 pm - 10:00 pm EST (US)

5:40-6:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
6:00-6:15	Course Overview and Introductions
6:15-7:15	The Neuroanatomy of Primitive Reflexes: Neural Pathways, Research, and Relevance to Evaluation and Treatment
7:15-7:45	Impact of Structure on Reflex Integration
7:45-9:00	Posture, the Ribcage and Pelvis: Impact of Structure on Reflex Integration
9:00-9:45	Moro Reflex
9:45-10:00	Wrap-up, Questions, Discussion

## Schedule – Day 2 8:40 am - 1:00 pm EST (US)

8:40-9:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
9:00-9:30	Check in, Discussion, Questions from the Week
9:30-10:45	The Somatosensory System: Where Reflex Integration Begins The Haller Method Body Mapping
10:45-12:45	Evaluation and Treatment of Primitive Reflexes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🕒 Hands Pulling</li> <li>🕒 Hands Supporting Reflex</li> <li>🕒 Tonic Labrynthine Reflex</li> <li>🕒 Landau Reflex</li> <li>🕒 Symmetrical Tonic Neck Reflex</li> </ul>
12:45-1:00	Wrap-up, Questions

## Audience

This course is relevant for Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants, Occupational Therapists, Occupational Therapy Assistants.

## Schedule – Day 3 8:40 am - 1:00 pm EST (US)

8:40-9:00	Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens
9:00-9:15	Check in, Discussion, Questions from the Week
9:15-10:45	Evaluation and Treatment of Primitive Reflexes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🕒 Asymmetric Tonic Neck Reflex</li> <li>🕒 Spinal Galant Reflex</li> <li>🕒 Amphibian Reflex</li> <li>🕒 Babinski Reflex</li> </ul>
10:45-11:30	Evaluation and Treatment of Primitive Reflexes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🕒 Babkin-Palmomental</li> <li>🕒 Palmar Reflex</li> <li>🕒 Plantar Reflex</li> </ul>
11:30-12:45	Video Case Study Synthesize Evaluation with Treatment of Primitive Reflexes
12:45-1:00	Questions and Answers

“Fantastic speaker and great information related to functional abilities and clinical practice.” –

H. Wrezinski, PT

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## Credits

This course meets the criteria for 12 contact hours (1.2) CEUs, Intermediate Level.



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Approved provider of the FL Board of Occupational Therapy-CE Broker – 14 hrs. This course meets the approval of the TX Board of OT Examiners.

Approved by the FL Physical Therapy Association for 14 continuing education contact hours.

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12 hours of this course qualify towards the discipline-specific hours for the 20-hour requirement for NDTA re-certification. They do NOT qualify towards the 8-hour NDTA Instructor requirement for re-certification.

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## Webinar Dates and Times

October 19, 20 and 21, 2023

October 19 | 5:40 pm EST • 4:40 pm CST • 3:40 pm MST • 2:40 pm PST (US)

October 20 and 21 | 8:40 am EST • 7:40 am CST • 6:40 am MST • 5:40 am PST (US)

*Registration is for all three sessions. Zoom log-in instructions and course materials will be emailed/added to your ERI account 5-7 days prior to the first date of the webinar.*



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We encourage you to register online!

**WEBINAR: Primitive Reflexes/Wiskind**

**October 19, 20 and 21, 2023**

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