

Play With Purpose: Integrating the Five Sensory Emotional Personality Styles

AnnMarie Murphy, OTD, OT/L, CIMI-2, PNAP

Faculty

Dr. AnnMarie Murphy is an occupational therapist and certified infant massage instructor with advanced training in the evaluation and treatment of sensory processing and integration disorder. Over the last seven years AnnMarie was mentored by the founder of Great Kids Place and creator of the Sensory-motor Emotional EngageMent Frame of Reference (SEEM), Michele Perkins, MS, OTR/L, IMH-E. During her time at Great Kids AnnMarie co-wrote this frame of reference as well as the Sensory-motor Emotional Engagement-Checklist; she also co-developed the adolescent and adult program, Great Kids at Heart, as well as a program to support children and adults who are over-responsive, Sensations As Fun Experiments (SAFE). To support Michele's Frame of Reference, within and outside of Great Kids Place, AnnMarie has had the honor and privilege of presenting this research locally and nationally. Over the last five years, AnnMarie has served as a member on the SEEM research team under the mentorship of Dr. Sarah Schoen. In memory of Michele, AnnMarie hosts a weekly podcast entitled A Sensory Emotional Lens.

Financial: AnnMarie Murphy receives an honorarium from Education Resources, Inc., Non-Financial: AnnMarie Murphy has no non-financial relationships to disclose

Audience

This intermediate course is designed for PTs, OTs and SLPs working with pediatrics through age 13.

About this Course

The Sensory Emotional EngageMent Frame of Reference connects sensory processing, motor experiences, and emotional expression to social-emotional development. Learn the 5 Sensory Emotional Personality Styles and corresponding Sensory Emotional Play Themes and Engagement Roles for improved regulation and enhanced engagement in intervention. Participants will have opportunities to apply the framework to their own clinical scenarios, use the Sensory Emotional Engagement Checklist, determine their own sensory emotional personality, and develop intervention plans. This course brings updated research with contemporary language that builds connection and compatibility amongst the bi-directional impacts of sensory emotional engagement and personality so children and their adults can achieve improved relational and mental health at home, school and in the community.

Learning Objectives

- Differentiate between sensory over-responsivity, under-responsivity, discrimination challenges, postural weakness, and dyspraxia.
- Link foundational sensory-motor capacities to mental health capacities
- Connect sensory processing, adaptive emotional expression, and social participation to personality and behavior.
- Utilize the Sensory Emotional EngageMent Checklist to assess for each of the five Sensory Emotional Personalities (SEPs).
- Determine intervention plans specific to each Sensory Emotional Personality using the P.L.A.Y. Framework that include play themes, sensory motor activities, affective strategies and supporting adult roles
- Identify modifications for the child's environment (in the home and community) to encourage engagement in play and relationships.
- Select strategies to educate parents and caregivers about play and emotional development as well as how to engage using the Sensory Emotional EngageMent (SEEM) frame of reference.

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

8:40-9:00 Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens

9:00-11:45

Sensory Emotional Personality Types

- Connections between underlying sensory processing difficulties and observable emotional dysregulation
 - Plus, Personality Style- the way one acts and interacts
- Meet the 5 Sensory Emotional Personalities
 - Explore observable behaviors, emotional regulation and social participation characteristics of each
 - Anxious yet Deeply Feeling
 - Unaware yet Deep Thinker
 - Confused yet Full of Wonder
 - Needy yet Compassionate
 - Scattered yet Intentional and Passionate
- Revisiting familiar terms to understand personality, through a novel sensory emotional lens-
 - Correlating with the 5 SEPs-
 - Sensory Over Responsivity
 - Sensory Under Responsivity
 - Sensory Discrimination
 - Postural Weakness
 - Dyspraxia
- Relational health and mental health- key for social participation, regulation and engagement in daily life
 - How Sensory Emotional Personality types impact relational and mental health
 - Mental health challenges associated with sensory processing differences (e.g., anxiety, ADHD, emotional dysregulation)

11:45-12:15 Lunch

12:15 – 3:00

- Assessment of Sensory Emotional Engagement
 - NEW assessment tool - Sensory Emotional Engagement Checklists (SEE-C)
 - Administration and Interpretation to guide treatment
 - Finding out your own SEP!

- Implementing Assessment Findings in Therapy
 - How to elicit emotional states and adaptive emotional responses (brave, powerful, strong) to enhance engagement in sensory-motor experiences through use of intentional play themes, affective strategies and supportive adult play roles

Schedule – Day 2 8:40 am - 3:00 pm EST (US)

8:40-9:00 Webinar Registration/Zoom Course Opens

9:00-11:45 The P.L.A.Y. Framework: Intervention using Sensory Emotional Engagement

- Strategies for each of the 5 Sensory Emotional Personalities
 - play strategies
 - sensory strategies
 - affect strategies
 - specific adult play roles
- Playing through Everyday Interactions
 - Learn to navigate daily routines including dressing, mealtime, and transitions using specific play themes, affect strategies and adult play roles dependent on SEP

11:45-12:15 Lunch

12:15 – 3:00 The P.L.A.Y. Framework: Intervention using Sensory Emotional Engagement continued...

- Using knowledge of your SEP to understand how adult SEPs impact engagement at home and in therapeutic settings
 - How to support your own SEP to help you show up for treatment
 - How match/mismatch of adult SEPs impact engagement and relationships
 - Case presentations and discussions
- Integrating the Sensory Emotional Engagement Frame of Reference into Your Practice
 - Creating sensory emotional environments in various therapeutic settings
 - Reflect on course learnings and plan for ongoing professional development
- Resources to share with your clients
 - The Sensory Emotional Center of Learning Portal
 - A Sensory Emotional Lens Podcast
 - Sensory Blogs
 - Me and My SEP Kids' Book Series

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This course meets the criteria for 11 contact hours (1.1 CEUs) Intermediate Level. To receive a certificate of completion all registered attendees are required to attend and participate fully in all applicable course activities (i.e., labs, discussions, group work, polls, post-tests with passing grade of 80% or greater etc.) and complete the evaluation form.



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This course can be used toward your NBCOT renewal requirements for 11 units. Approved provider of the FL Board of Occupational Therapy-CE Broker – 13 hrs. This course meets the approval of the TX Board of OT Examiners.



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ASHA credits are accepted by the TX Department of License and Renewal. Application has been made to the FL Physical Therapy Association for 13 continuing education contact hours. Accreditation of this course does not necessarily imply the FPTA supports the views of the presenter or the sponsors.

Application has been made to the MD Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

Application has been made to the MN Board of Physical Therapy.

Application has been made to the NJ Board of Physical Therapy Examiners.

Approved sponsor by the State of IL Department of Financial and Professional Regulation for Physical Therapy for 13 contact hours. Application has been made to the Illinois EI Training Program. Approved provider by the NY State Board of Physical Therapy for 13 contact hours (1.3 CEUs).

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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. Education Resources, Inc. 266 Main St, Medfield, MA 02052. Please contact us with any special needs requests: info@educationresourcesinc.com or 800-487-6530.

Webinar Dates and Times

September 17 and 25, 2026

8:40 am EST • 7:40 am CST • 6:40 am MST • 5:40 am PST (US)

Registration is for both 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.

Register at educationresourcesinc.com



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September 17 and 25, 2026

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