



## **Ski Spectacular Instructor Academy**

**Hosted by The Hartford Ski Spectacular**

**December 9-12, 2024**

### **Clinic Summary Notes**

**Clinic Topic:** A Spectrum of Possibilities: Teaching Guests with ASD [mothert@oneimage.com](mailto:mothert@oneimage.com)

1. Learn everything you can about ASD. The more you learn the more prepared you will be when meeting the wide variety of guests who have ASD. Resources below.
2. Keep environments calm – this includes pacing of lesson and speech
3. Communication comes in many forms. All behavior is communication. Work with caregivers to understand the guest's communication. Remember, the guest's understanding level may not coincide with his or her communication level.
4. Assistive devices such as ski tip clips, bamboo poles, tethers, poles, etc. are used to help the guest achieve a specific movement goal and can then be removed.
5. Learn about behavior triggers – visual schedules, written lists, rewards, play time, avoidance of certain irritants, may help keep the guest comfortable and focused. Again, check with caregivers for information on guest likes, dislikes, environmental preferences, etc.
6. Put the guest in situations that set them up for success.
7. Safety: Instructor is responsible for his or her safety and that of the guest.
8. Expect the unexpected and calmly address it. It can be a learning experience and joy to teach people who think differently than we do!

Resources:

PSIA-AASI's *Alpine Technical Manual* and *Adaptive Alpine Technical Manual* for adaptive specific movement, <https://thesnowpros.org/education/digital-manuals-for-every-discipline>

PSIA\_AASI's *Adaptive Instruction Supplement (AIS)* for diagnoses and medication, <https://thesnowpros.org/education/digital-manuals-for-every-discipline>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILiX9gGd0Ik>. - Autism Criteria

<http://autismnow.org/articles/dual-diagnosis-people-with-autism-and-dealing-with-mental-health-challenges>. - dual diagnoses

[https://www.ted.com/speakers/temple\\_grandin](https://www.ted.com/speakers/temple_grandin) Dr Temple Grandin on how people with

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IA4tE3\\_2qmI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IA4tE3_2qmI) autism think. She has autism.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxwW57\\_dEUI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yxwW57_dEUI) Theories and controversies

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/index.html> CDC info