

Deborah Sussman, Ph.D.

Associate Faculty - Infant & Early Childhood Development - School of Psychology at Fielding Graduate University

New York, NY, US

Early Infant and Child Development

Biography

Deborah Sussman, PhD, has been working with adults and children for over thirty years as a practicing Occupational Therapist. Her interest is in supporting the emotions and regulation of caregivers and children during functional activities. She is certified in the Sensory Integration Praxis Test and specializes in sensory processing disorders and parent-child interactions. Dr. Sussman provides educational programs to parents, educators and therapists. She is a certified DIR/Floortime Expert Trainer Leader through the Interdisciplinary Council on Developmental and Learning Disorders. She graduated from Boston University, Sargent College in 1981 and received her PhD at Fielding Graduate University IECD program in 2016. Dr. Sussman is the owner of Debbie's Playce, located outside New York City, in Rockland County. Debbie's Playce is a center that offers full support to caregivers and children with neurodevelopmental challenges in functioning with daily life. She enjoys gardening, knitting, exercise, and music.

Industry Expertise

Training and Development, Professional Training and Coaching, Mental Health Care, Program Development, Education/Learning

Areas of Expertise

Observational Assessment, Treatment, Development and Function, Coaching and Mentoring, Teaching

Affiliations

American Occupational Therapy Association : Member, Interdisciplinary Council for Developmental and Learning Disorders : Member

Event Appearances

What is a disability and what is developmental?
(2010-2020) Workshop for Parents and Schools

Sensory Integration for Professionals
(2013-2020) Professional Seminars

Sensory Integration in the Classroom
(2005-2020) Educator Seminars

DIR Floortime Developmental Individual Relationship
(2012-present) Introductory, online and face-to-face courses in Developmental Individual Relationship

Education

Fielding Graduate University
PhD Infant and Early Childhood Development

Boston University, Sargent College
BS

Accomplishments

Therapist of the Year
(2008) Rockland Institute for Special Education

Certificate of Achievement
(2008) County of Rockland, New York

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