

## **ABA and SLP: A Collaboration?**

Many of us have both behavior analysts and speech-language pathologists (SLPs) working to help our children with autism overcome their language delays. With luck, these professionals already view each other as collaborators. If they don't, point out to them that there is a growing effort in that direction that they can join.

In 2005, the Association for Behavior Analysis, International formed a Speech Pathology and ABA Special Interest Group. Members are either certified SLPs, Board Certified Behavior Analysts, or students in either certification track. Information about the group is available at: <http://behavioralspeech.com/>.

In 2006, the Behavior Analyst Online organization launched a new online journal dedicated to the intersection of these two disciplines – the Journal of Speech-Language Pathology and Applied Behavior Analysis. This journal, along with several other free online ABA journals, is available at: <http://www.behavior-analyst-online.org/Journals.html>.

The second issue of the new journal contained an article from Lori Frost and Andy Bondy (of PECS fame) entitled “A Common Language: Using B.F. Skinner’s Verbal Behavior for Assessment and Treatment of Communication Disabilities in SLP-ABA.” This article very clearly shows how the terminologies of Verbal Behavior and SLP relate to each other. If you think these professionals aren’t understanding each other, consider giving each a copy. You can download the full journal from: <http://www.behavior-analyst-today.com/SLP-ABA-VOL-1/SLP-ABA-1-2.pdf>.

