



# Primary From the Playroom PROJECT

## A message from our Primary Project co-directors

Happy 2019! While it is the middle of the school year, January begins a New Year for all of us! Are you perhaps someone that has committed to a New Year's resolution or have a goal you would like to accomplish? Whatever your goal or resolution, the idea is to try it out! Maybe you'd like to get more exercise, eat healthier, attempt a new activity or sport, or seek out a new professional development opportunity for work. The options are endless, however you'll find that when you try new things, in the end you learn. If it is to lose weight, an increase in activity is needed and more trips to the gym are planned along with healthier eating habits and meals. You try it out, make modifications, and learn about the things to do and not to do along the way.



In this edition of *From the Playroom*, Dr. Jodi Mullen shares her wisdom in the "Bringing the Lessons Home" article about the importance of letting children "try." We highlighted programs in East Rochester and Lyons, NY and what they shared about Primary Project. Check out these features as well as other announcements and updates.

-*Shelley M. Sanyshyn, MS and Lynn Smith, LMSW, Co-Directors of Primary Project*

## Primary Project kick-off

Schools in Lyons (top photo) and East Rochester, NY (bottom photos) celebrated the start of the school year by sharing the benefits of Primary Project with teachers and parents.

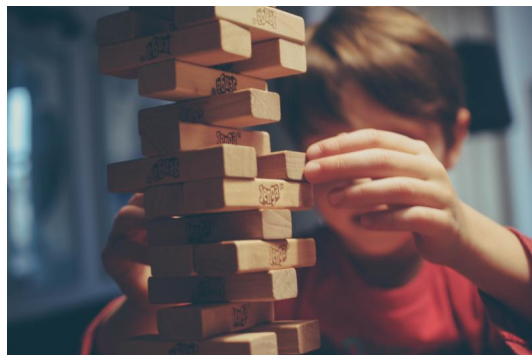


## Bringing the lessons Home

"Let me try"

By Jodi Mullen, Ph.D., LMHC, RPT-S, CCPT-S

I have recently published a new book titled, "Raising freakishly well behaved kids." As a child counselor and play therapist for over 25 years and a parent for more than 18 years, I have learned valuable lessons from a unique set of experts; children. In the book, I highlighted 20 simple principles that we can use in our relationships with our own children and/or the children we work with.



[Click for story - English](#)

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An article titled "Improving Mental Health Outcomes for Young Children through the Implementation of the Primary Project" was recently published in the Journal of School-Based Counseling Evaluation and Policy. The article describes the history, current state, and future implications of Primary Project. The article discusses children's mental health needs and the role of the school in addressing these needs. Current research efforts are presented with a specific focus on University-community studies in Arkansas and Massachusetts. Implications for future research and school-based counseling evaluation and policy are addressed. The article is available at:

[www.umass.edu/schoolcounseling/uploads/Peabody\\_Perryman\\_Hannah\\_Smith\\_Sanyshyn%202018.pdf](http://www.umass.edu/schoolcounseling/uploads/Peabody_Perryman_Hannah_Smith_Sanyshyn%202018.pdf)

A second article titled "Building Competency in School Psychology Trainees Through the Use of Primary Project" has been published this quarter in the Training and Education in Professional Psychology Journal. The article is available at:

[www.childrensinstitute.net/sites/default/files/documents/training-education-professional-psychology\\_article.pdf](http://www.childrensinstitute.net/sites/default/files/documents/training-education-professional-psychology_article.pdf)

An article titled "Turning the Focus to Behavioral, Emotional, and Social Well-Being: The Impact of Child Centered Play Therapy" was recently published in the [International Journal of Play Therapy](#). The article describes a quantitative study that evaluated the impact of participating in child-centered play therapy for qualifying diverse second-grade students. This study was implemented through the PMHP protocol, utilizing the T-CRS. Findings indicated that this treatment was an effective preventative approach for those students at risk for developing adverse behaviors that could negatively impact academic success.

### Process to set up COMET: (1) Groups (2) Relationships (3) Frequencies



The following outlines important setup processes, including the order to do each step. These are some of the most common areas of questions received by the COMET support team on Primary Project.

For each Primary Project child being *screened*, the initial upload process takes care of setting up the relationship with their class teacher, so teachers are scoped to see the information for the children in their own classroom. Then the following steps are necessary to enroll the children to be served by Primary Project and to support appropriate data viewing and reporting:

1. **Groups:** The Primary Project CPA (COMET Primary Administrator) for the organization creates and names the Group to be used for those being served. (ex. "Spring Primary Project," "Fall PMHP,"...). The CPA then adds the children to be served to this Group.
2. **Relationships:** Once they are added to the Group, the CPA then sets up the relationships between the child and the child associate and the supervising school mental health professional (social worker/school psychologist).
3. **Frequencies:** Once they are placed in the Group and the relationships are created, the CPA sets the frequencies for the remaining instruments (A-CRS, Child Log, PSR, T-CRS).

#### COMET pricing for the 2019-2020 school year

Pricing for using COMET is implemented for 2019-2020 with the same approach as previous years, with a fee per organization, per school site, and per completed assessment:

- \$236 organization fee
- \$118 school fee
- \$2.58 completed assessment fee

#### Subscribe to the COMET customer newsletter: "What's new on COMET"

We encourage all registered COMET users, including Primary Project administrators, teachers, and child associates, to sign up for the COMET monthly newsletter.

[Click to sign up!](#)

[Do you need professional development credits?](#)  
[Don't miss this opportunity!](#)



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*The SEL Center at Children's Institute has a vision to transform the settings where children and youth grow, learn, and play, so that all adults intentionally foster the social and emotional skills young people need to be successful. Children's Institute is affiliated with the University of Rochester and has served the community for over 60 years.*



**Plan to attend!**

Stay tuned for details on our upcoming April 2019 Spotlight Series seminar.

[Past Spotlight Series events](#)

CHILDREN'S INSTITUTE - [www.childrensinstitute.net](http://www.childrensinstitute.net)

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