

15 December 2008

My son, Asher, has been receiving occupational therapy with Yael at Dynamics OTC for approximately five months now. Asher first presented himself to Yael as a four-year old with learning difficulties, and sensory integration dysfunction. At four years old, he was unable to speak, except for a few words like 'bye', 'go', 'in' and 'out'. Most of the time, he made little or almost no attempt to imitate sounds and actions. He was also unable to focus on tasks and was very much a self-agendered individual. Getting Asher to sit at the table and start a task used to be such a struggle with him constantly skipping away and his attention drifting by the second.

Yael gave me great confidence in her ability from the start. She showed a keen consideration for Asher and without any prompting, she naturally declared, "I love all my kids!" Her tone and eyes told me what she just said was genuine, without any pretence. That added another medal to her credentials. Subsequently, Yael kept me informed at every session about what was going on in her session with Asher. She also gave me very helpful pointers of putting what she's been doing with Asher into daily situations at home. Asher used to have this chronic habit of spitting and spurting saliva. A few others have tried to correct that in him, but the results were often not permanent. Yael taught me what to do to help Asher overcome this, and for five months now, Asher has kept spitting at bay.

After just three months with Yael, Asher was able to sit at a table for almost 30 minutes, and complete simple tasks like shapes sorting, puzzles and some form of art work. Now, five months into therapy, Asher is able to sit at his own table at home and I am able to lead him through a few table tasks up to an hour, and throughout this duration, Asher's attention remained fixed on the tasks and his spirits remained cheerful. His enthusiasm is evidently developing. Yael has persevered so much in engaging Asher that he is now eager to learn and very willing to follow through tasks. From a child with a vocabulary of just a handful of words, Asher now makes an excellent effort in reciting the alphabet and he definitely interacts much more appropriately in our family and social circle. Through her consistent efforts and patience, Yael has enabled Asher to explore our world in a meaningful way and she is restoring to him the ability to enjoy more of his surroundings, in a way that he was previously unable to.

The staff and other therapists at Dynamics OTC are friendly and accepting, and Yael makes us feel so welcomed each time we go for our appointment. Asher absolutely loves going to his therapy sessions with her! I have observed and appreciated Yael for always being well-organized and presented, which gave me a lot of confidence in what she can do for Asher. Asher's progress would never have happened at the rate it did if it weren't for all the exceptional services and level of commitment provided by Yael. She was able and always willing to answer any questions I had, and never once, did I feel that Yael was too busy for us. She continues to be very much involved and dedicated to Asher's development and our session with her at each appointment reassures me once again that I had finally found the right hands for Asher. Yael has empowered Asher to create everyday miracles for himself. To me, and I believe, to Asher, Yael is his gold medal therapist.