

An Interview with Tom regarding Music Shine Media's DVD "Splish Splash Over the Ocean" (SSOO)

(Tom is a composer and studio owner in Seattle Washington, and the father of 4 year old Connor, diagnosed with Autism)



How often does Connor watch television?

Connor watches 1 – 2 hours each day of videos, and 30 minutes of regular TV per week

What are his favorite videos?

"Splish Splash Over the Ocean", of course!, and Veggie Tales, Sponge Bob, Lion King, Busy People- Richard Scary. He gets locked on to one for 3 – 4 weeks.

What excites you about his responses to SSOO?

How he responded ~ he wasn't just passive, he was engaged. There was 2-way continuity, a person talking to him, like Mr. Rogers, and the Wiggles. I don't have to worry that this is useless viewing ~ YES, he can learn stuff. As a parent, it is easy to pop in and out of his viewing and engage easily with him. And Connor doesn't complain as much when it's on!

Do you find him more or less engaged with SSOO than other videos?

Connor is much MORE with Splish Splash than other videos.

What behaviors did you observe Connor demonstrating after he watched SSOO?

He was singing the songs, engaging in more imaginative play, he continued doing the movements.

Did he want to watch it again?

(Big laugh) Yes!

How often DOES he want to watch SSOO?

Well, very often. I let him watch it 3 times in a row once.

Do you feel SSOO increases or decreases Connor's:

- ~ Verbal Skills Yes. Connor sings along*
- ~ Cognitive Skills Yes, it increases his circle of engagement.*
- ~ Gross Motor Skills Yes, he models the movements of the other children*
- ~ Social Integration Yes. This is very important. It reinforces peer interaction.*

Does SSOO have a positive affect on Connor's ability to connect with those close to him? *Yes, we have more actively engaged in play as parent and child since viewing SSOO.*

Anything else you would like to share?

Of the 50 or so Therapists that Connor has seen, maybe 5 have been Men. So I feel that you two as females are more accessible to him, not as threatening.

As a parent, we are always looking for anything that is a positive thing for Connor. SSOO is a positive thing for Connor.