

**Child care will be available to all Gillen Brewer parents for \$5.00 per child.**

**Advance registration is required for all workshops and child care.**

**RSVP to Ida Sacconi for all workshops and child care.**

**212-831-3667 x200 or  
ida@gillenbrewer.com**

*As a learning community, we strive to offer support to you and your family. Please take advantage of our wonderful and talented staff and parent resources.*

*If you cannot attend a session you are interested in, contact your therapist to set up a time to discuss it.*

The Gillen Brewer School  
A Community of Learners  
410 East 92nd Street  
New York, NY 10128

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**Gillen Brewer**

**Parent**

**Workshops**

**2011-2012**

**Parent Support Groups  
GBS Psychology Department  
Wednesdays  
8:30-9:20 a.m.**

The GBS Psychology Department is once again offering weekly Parent Support Groups for parents of all our students. One group is for our mothers/caretakers and another for our fathers. This is a valuable venue for parents/caretakers, old and new, to connect with one another and share thoughts, feelings, concerns and information in relation to having a child with special needs.

**Learning to Listen, Listening to Learn  
Lydia Soifer, Ph.D.  
Tuesday, October 11th  
6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Listening comprehension is a crucial precursor to literacy, as well as an essential skill for academic success. This workshop will address the components of listening comprehension as well as specific techniques that can be used to facilitate and improve listening skills, especially as they relate to the classroom.

*Dr. Soifer is a language pathologist with more than 35 years' experience in clinical, private and university teaching. She is a frequent presenter at professional conferences across the country. She is Assistant Clinical Professor of Pediatrics and faculty member in the Early Intervention Training Institute at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Dr. Soifer is the Director of the Soifer Center for Learning and Child Development. As a parent educator, teacher trainer and staff developer, she specializes in the needs of children with deficits in learning, behavior and communication.*

**Come Sit In My Chair:  
Demystifying Gillen Brewer for Siblings  
GBS Psychology Department  
Tuesday, October 18th  
5:30-7:30 p.m.**

This is a special night for siblings of Gillen Brewer students to visit the school, learn about what their brothers or sisters may experience being here and share their thoughts and feelings in regard to having a sibling with special needs. Siblings ages five and up invited.

**Enhancing Fine and Visual-Motor  
Development with Your Child  
GBS Occupational Therapy Department  
Wednesday, October 19th  
6:00-8:00 p.m.**

This workshop will focus on the general developmental sequence of fine and visual-motor skills in children who are at the preschool and elementary school age. Parents and caregivers will gain an understanding of fine and visual-motor development and developmentally appropriate activities that they can engage in with their children, and will have the opportunity to utilize fine motor toys and determine where to acquire developmentally appropriate supplies.

**Simple Steps:  
Protecting Children from Toxins  
Department of Pediatrics and Preventive Medicine,  
Mount Sinai School of Medicine  
Thursday, October 27th  
6:00-7:00 p.m.**

This presentation will discuss why children are at risk, an overview of important environmental topics, simple steps to reduce exposure, and where you can go for more information.

**Executive Functions, Language and Learning:  
Basics and Practical Applications  
Lydia Soifer, Ph.D.  
Tuesday, November 1st  
6:00-8:00 p.m.**

What are the executive functions? What role do they play in learning? How can I be more effective in helping my child improve performance and increase independence as a learner? This workshop will address each of these questions by discussing how content can be delivered strategically and affects the quality of learning.

**Sounds in Motion  
GBS Speech-Language Pathology Department  
Monday, November 14th  
6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Learn more about Sounds In Motion (SIM), the fun and engaging phonemic awareness program being used in several GBS classrooms. The SIM approach focuses on listening skills and provides kinesthetic gross motor movements to teach phonemic awareness (e.g., sound/letter correspondence, blending sounds into words) and articulation. This workshop will provide an overview of the SIM program and an introduction to the movements and activities, so that parents can share their children's enthusiasm and support progress in early literacy skills.

**Developing Gross Motor Skills  
and Encouraging Exercise  
GBS Occupational Therapy Department  
Wednesday, November 30th  
6:00-8:00 p.m.**

In this workshop we will focus on the development of balance, ball skills, jumping and strengthening activities. Parents and caregivers will have a chance to learn about the developmental sequence of gross motor development. Caregivers and parents will also have the opportunity to learn how to engage in these activities at home and on the playground.

**Working Memory and Learning:  
Overview, Relationships and Relevance  
Lydia Soifer, Ph.D.  
Tuesday, January 31st  
6:00-8:00 p.m.**

Working memory plays a crucial role in classroom performance and learning. Working memory as one important aspect of memory will be defined, and the relationship to literacy development and math will be reviewed. Techniques for identifying children with working memory deficits as well as ways of supporting children with working memory deficits will be presented.

**Come Sit In My Chair—Part 2  
GBS Psychology Department  
Wednesday, March 7th  
5:30-7:30 p.m.**

This will be a follow-up workshop for those siblings who attended the "Come Sit In My Chair" workshop in October.