



MELISSA MAKO

Academic Intervention Specialist

410.925.7117 MelissaM@PinnacleEducationServices.com

Melissa is an academic intervention specialist providing Orton-Gillingham based tutoring for nearly two decades. As a child, Melissa was diagnosed with dyslexia and was fortunate to find success by attending a school specifically designed to help kids with dyslexia. After completing her undergraduate education in Psychology with a minor in Education, she found herself driven to know more about the methodologies used to teach kids with learning challenges. She immediately began Orton-Gillingham courses to learn direct explicit instruction taught in a multi-sensory fashion. Upon completing her training, Melissa was most honored to help open the first Jewish school for children with learning disabilities in Brooklyn, NY.

Since meeting her husband and moving to Baltimore, Melissa has been helping students find success at tutoring centers and through private practice. In 2017, Melissa joined Lindamood-Bell's learning center team helping students with decoding, reading comprehension, and math computation. She is now an academic intervention specialist at Pinnacle Education Services. Melissa's extensive experience treating students of all ages who have learning disabilities, ADHD, and gifted/twice exceptional profiles has uniquely prepared her to meet the needs of her students. Melissa finds that using positive reinforcement and compassion forges strong relationships and builds her student's trust while fostering participation. With her personal family history with learning disabilities, extensive training, experience, and thirst for knowledge, Melissa guides each student to their full academic potential. She helps each student achieve the knowledge needed to advocate for their academic needs in any setting.

SPECIALTIES

- Language based learning differences (LBD)—dyslexia, dysgraphia, dyscalculia, oral and written language disability
- Twice exceptional (gifted) students with a learning difference
- ADD/ADHD
- Autism spectrum

EDUCATION

Thomas Edison State College B.S. in Psychology and Education

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- Orton-Gillingham Teachers Training Courses I & II
- Multi-Sensory Teachers Training Workshop
- Lindamood-Bell Decoding Course—*Seeing Stars*
- Lindamood-Bell Reading Comprehension Course—*Visualizing & Verbalizing*
- Lindamood-Bell Math Course—*On Cloud Nine*
- Executive Function & ADHD Workshops
- Lively Letters Training
- Learn-Up Reading Workshop by Steve Tattum

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Academic Intervention Specialist
Pinnacle Education Services Online
- Orton-Gillingham Teacher—3rd grade
L'aylah School at Torah Institute, Baltimore, MD
- Educational Language Tutor
*Wright Academics Tutoring Center
Baltimore, MD*
- Lindamood-Bell Clinician
Lindamood-Bell Tutoring Center, Baltimore, MD
- Orton-Gillingham Language Tutor
Ohr HaLimud Jewish Day School, Brooklyn, NY