

NEWS FROM YOUR ELKS MAJOR PROJECT . . .

A grateful parent writes:

Since October 1, 2002, my son Reece has been receiving speech articulation therapy from Hedley Uetake, [Speech] Language Pathologist for the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project. Therapy sessions took place every Tuesday at Reece's grandparent's home in Kaneohe. Reece immensely enjoys his sessions with her and asks practically every day if Ms. Hedley is coming. You should see the smile on his face when the answer is "yes."

Hedley's approach to therapy sessions with Reece is incredible. We are so impressed with her dedication and energy she puts into her work. She is extremely creative with games and activities while still incorporating speech articulation lessons. Hedley actually gets down to Reece's level and encourages him to play as well as articulate. Reece has so much fun that he isn't even aware that it is actually a therapy session.

Prior to therapy, Reece really didn't say much and most of the time he had to repeat himself several times before he was understood. However, since Reece started therapy with Hedley, his speech articulation has dramatically improved. His teachers and classmates have very little trouble understanding him. Now, Reece is not ashamed to speak, even in front of his class. His teachers have even quipped that he is a little chatterbox. This was a major accomplishment for Reece.

We would like to express our thanks to you, the California-Hawaii Elks Major Project, and to Hedley Uetake. Reece is able to speak to anyone with confidence. Your program has not only benefited him now, but also improved his future. We greatly appreciate your support and assistance and feel extremely fortunate to have been associated with you and your program.

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A grateful school nurse writes:

On behalf of the parents and students, I want to thank you for your generosity in providing free kindergarten vision screening again this year!



A coin a day so they can walk, talk, see and play!