

# WHAT'S IN A NAME | HADEN BOLIEK & KJIRSTI MYLES

## THE WORKING THERAPIST | 5.22.2015

- I. Intro
  - a. Haden welcomes the listener
    - i. "Thanks for joining me."
  - b. Haden welcomes guest
    - i. Kjirsti Myles
      1. Kjirsti introduces herself
- II. Introduce subject
  - a. Talking about a difficult subject today... "What's in a name"
  - b. Kjirsti wrote post on BBS
    - i. Been working in places and hear therapists call children by their diagnosis
      1. Really hit a nerve with me because it reduces that child to their diagnosis
  - c. Difficult to discuss because
    - i. Communication styles are different
    - ii. Personalities are different
    - iii. Parent level of acceptance is different
    - iv. Personal level of experience is different
- III. Why it happens
  - a. Been trained to pick out the deficit
    - i. It's what we went to school for
      1. Kjirsti gives park example
    - ii. As pediatric therapists we're not surrounded more by atypical than typical development
  - b. Insurance justifications
    - i. Always looking at the need
  - c. Lack of experience or education
    - i. Political correctness
  - d. Get surrounded with the what and miss the why
- IV. How to avoid it
  - a. Increase your awareness
    - i. Be aware of the child and the family that you work with
  - b. Get back to your why
    - i. Kjirsti talks about our why
      1. Gives personal story of Liam in hospital
  - c. Be intentional about not calling the child by their diagnosis

- i. "Think before you speak"
    - ii. Reframe when you have to
  - V. How to lead through it
    - a. Lead with fellow staff
      - i. Set the example
    - b. Lead with families
      - i. Reframing how things are said to lead
        - 1. IEP meetings are great opportunities to lead through this
- VI. Wrap Up
  - a. Kjirsti gives closing remarks
  - b. Haden thanks the listener for their time
    - i. I'll catch you next time on another episode of The Working Therapist