

Desiree, volunteer's parent

My son Sijuan, he is autistic. He's able to understand pretty well. His main problem is his verbal communication, so we are working on that.

The study that we participated in is called the Sensory Experience Project, in Chapel Hill. I hope that more people will do it, because in that way, we'll be able to set a pattern. What really happens with kids that have autism? What is different than other kids? And we can take that spectrum that is so big, and make it more short, and see how we can do it in order to help every kid and every family.

They are studying how the kids process the information that they receive through their senses.

He had a great time, he was laughing, he was really happy. He enjoyed it. It was just him, being himself. And being appreciated for what he is.

After participating in the study, they sent us information about our son, and how the things that they did come with these outcomes. So they gave us feedback, hints, ideas, of things to do to help him improve. That's what we've been doing, and it's been working great. He's talking more, he's able to communicate.