



**More information on Dr. Miller and her background.**

**As** founder of the only comprehensive SPD research program nationwide and the sole researcher to be awarded an NIH grant to study the disorder, Dr. Lucy Jane Miller is in a class of her own.

The 25-year-old KID Foundation that she founded and directs is the only full-time program of research into SPD in the world. This research was originally conducted in conjunction with the University of Colorado medical school, where Dr. Miller was an associate professor, and in research laboratories at The Children's Hospital. Dr. Miller recently moved her research to the KID Foundation Research Institute, where it operates in association with STAR (Sensory Therapies and Research), a newly founded clinical treatment center that provides intervention for children, adolescents, and adults. Under a National Institute of Health planning grant, Dr. Miller coordinates a multi-site treatment effectiveness group with that has established identical laboratories for cross-validation of her research in three major cities outside of Colorado. She has also received two additional grants to help funded scientists in related fields establish a multi-disciplinary agenda for further research into Sensory

Processing Disorder. She is the principal investigator for all the grants supporting these programs. Dr. Miller has developed seven standardized national tests for use in assessing and diagnosing SPD and other developmental disorders and delays (e.g., the Miller Assessment for Preschoolers). These scales are considered - in the field and give her enormous recognition and credibility within the professional community.

The prominence of Dr. Miller's research and her ability to articulate the science of SPD clearly and empathetically makes her a natural interview subject. She has been featured on ABC's 20/20, PBS, and local television and has been widely quoted in numerous popular and professional publications including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, Business Week, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe, Pediatric News, Parents Magazine, Child Magazine, and others. The author of more than sixty articles and/or chapters in scientific and professional journals, magazines, and textbooks, Dr. Miller also is a frequent presenter or speaker at conferences and workshops worldwide and has received more than thirty funded awards and grants totaling approximately three million dollars to

further research on SPD and other childhood disabilities.

Dr. Miller received her master of science degree in occupational therapy from Boston University and apprenticed for three months under the late Dr. A. Jean Ayres, who pioneered the study of SPD in the early 1970s. Upon graduation, Dr. Miller spent an additional two years in a specialized intensive post-graduate training program under the supervision of expert clinicians from the Psychoanalytic Institute in Boston. She completed her formal education by obtaining a Ph.D. from the University of Denver in Early Childhood Special Education, with an Educational Research emphasis.

*"At last, the most renowned researcher and practitioner – the person everyone comes to for answers – shares her body of knowledge with all of us. Our wait for the authoritative book on Sensory Processing Disorder is over."*

*Carol Kranowitz, MA,  
author of The Out-of-Sync Child*

# Autism & SPD\* Therapy

## Quotes about Makoto from Dr. Lucy Jane Miller

\* Sensory Processing Disorders



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"I was pleasantly surprised by the emotional effect of the Makoto system. I recently had a young man who had left the military after two tours of duty in the Gulf. After participating in Makoto therapy he reported astounding improvement in his **focus** after even one usage and we were then able to work on his sense of self and his self-esteem."



Makoto is an excellent tool for working on sensory

integrative functions. We have seen amazing therapeutic gains in clients in motor planning and inter-sensory processing ... little do they know it's a therapeutic modality ... in fact it's perceived as a fun game!

"I would feel confident recommending Makoto to therapists specifically for use in rehabilitation and prevention of disability because:

1. The client's performance is quantifiable, i.e. change can be measured with each use;
2. It is well-suited to achieving a "just right" state of challenge, stimulating but not overwhelming
3. The more you engage with Makoto, the more your scores improve. This motivates you to do it more ... which improves your confidence and outlook on life, and also boosts your motivation for therapeutic intervention
4. Therapists can create new games per their clients' needs; for example, I recently created a teamwork game for a parent and child which helped their communication with each other (as well as the child's motor planning)
5. Like Interactive Metronome (IM), Makoto works on timing, rhythm and response-to-stimuli, but IM does not work with the entire body, which we know is foundational to working with higher level tasks (such as those done with IM)
6. Makoto is great for all ages of clients; it helps with both short-term and long-term goals of therapy
  - for children, Makoto gets them physically engaged, focuses them, and gets them emotionally grounded;
  - for young adults, it wakes them up, makes them feel sharper, like they are participating in life rather than observing (they also love the competitive aspect of trying to beat their last score)
  - for adults and seniors, the neuro/muscular activity prompted by Makoto sharpens both mental and physical abilities
7. Our clients find Makoto **FUN**, and if you can make therapy fun, you've won more than half the battle!"

At the STAR (Sensory Therapies And Research) Center we have found it effective for a variety of conditions, including AD/HD, SPD (Sensory Processing Disorder), dyspraxia, learning difficulties, and head injuries.

It is also extremely useful for neurological impairments that affect the mind *and* body, e.g., Parkinson Disease and Multiple Sclerosis.

