

Brenna's CE Experience- Responses by her mom, Maureen



How old was Brenna when she began Conductive Education?

What were some of the skills she was working on?

Brenna was just 3 when she began CE. We were worried to leave her that first week, but she was so ready for the challenge. Brenna quickly found a new confidence in herself and began moving independently. Even though the work was hard, she enjoyed the routine and the challenge, and her positive response was immediate. Brenna was initially working on using her walker, fine motor, core strength, and communication skills. Over time she has also had goals of self-care, making transitions, strength and flexibility, and using her canes, a goal she is currently working on.

What first convinced you to try CE?

We first heard about it from her PT at hippotherapy. When Brenna was young, her doctors has told us that she should be on her feet as much as possible to ensure healthy joint development and avoid interventions as much as possible, so CE was perfect at the time. Also, around this time we came to realize the extent of Brenna's communication challenges and how important it was for her to be mobile to interact with the world as much as possible.

Why do you continue?

Brenna continues to make strides and looks forward to summer camp every year. We think Brenna has unlimited potential and it is encouraging that the conductors feel the same. Brenna enjoys the challenge and has a clear desire to push herself; CE is an important part of her education. Each year, after the first day, Brenna attempts more independent activities. CE sets the bar high for her and she works hard to reach for it.

What impact has CFCE had on Brenna and your family?

From summer camp to ski trips, CE is a central part of our lives as an extension of our family. Not only do the conductors help Brenna work towards her goals, they offer direction and advice on working at home and her medical needs—and are there as strong support families need in addressing challenges.

What is Brenna's favorite thing about CE?

Brenna loves the social aspect and seeing everyone each year- conductors, aides and children. Even though she's getting older, Brenna still enjoys the songs and games that go along with the routine. We appreciate that the conductors know her so well and respect her abilities while always reconsidering and modifying their approach as she grows and her needs change. Brenna loves you all.