

# ✧ MEET JESSICA ✧

hello

I'm Jessica! I am a speech-language pathologist and a child development researcher. I found myself learning so much about children and families early on in my career and I craved an understanding of why some strategies were working so well with some children versus others. That curiosity led me to a Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Sciences, and I absolutely love bringing that added insight to my clinical skillset. I actually started my career working closely with Abby, and I could not be more excited or grateful for the chance to collaborate with this incredible sister duo!

I love to connect with children and foster an excitement to communicate, learn, and grow through play. Helping children share their thoughts and feelings — big and small — lights me up! I recognize that all children have a unique set of strengths and interests. I strive to nurture a love for language, curiosity, self-expression, self-confidence, and self-awareness. Helping a child find their voice, channel their energy to focus on problem-solving, advocate for themselves in other settings, or share their opinions loud and clear brings me so much joy. I use a lot of fun tools to create engagement in my practice, Abby and Hannah have called me the “toy queen”. Now that I am a parent myself, I am constantly testing out new approaches to play and engagement — and still finding new toys and tools along the way.



My son, Henry, is 18 months old and he brings me so much joy! When I'm not spending time at home playing with my son and husband, Jeff, I'm probably outdoors soaking up some sunshine and shopping at the farmer's market. I love to cook, puzzle, and take indoor cycling classes. Even after a grand total of 13 years of college, I still love to read as well. If it's football season, I'm cheering on my longhorns (and the red raiders of course) and managing my fantasy football team. I love planning traveling to new places or returning to favorites, anything involving hiking or Disney is always a treat.

This work brings me so much joy, and I'm grateful for every family I have the privilege of teaming up with. Thank you for welcoming me to the DST family, I can't wait to learn with you and grow together! ✧

