### **OUTLINE**

#### What is Causing Rising Childhood Anxiety?

The Challenges of 21st Century Living for Kids

- Disconnection
- Adult technology use
- Social media
- Caregiver stress and distraction
- Over-stimulation
- Technology
- Academic pressure
- Changing expectations
- Over scheduling
- World events

### Assessing for Anxiety - How Do Kids Cope?

Common Reactions to Anxiety

- · Withdrawal
- · Procrastination
- Perfectionism
- · Seeking reassurance and affirmation
- · Risk-taking and substance abuse
- Relationship challenges

Tools and resources children already have

Implications for mental health and long term individual and community outcomes

### Why Do We Have Anxiety and What is it Trying to Tell Us?

Types of anxiety

Anxiety and the brain-nervous system-body relationship Anxiety as necessary and functional – we all have it!

- · Gives us information
- Can help us prepare for challenges

What happens when anxiety becomes mal-adaptive?

- Relationship between mindset and biology of the nervous system
- · Reduced decision making capacity
- Increasing reactivity
- Impact of frequent overwhelm

Trauma and anxiety

Relationship and the role of the adults in childhood

#### Yoga, Mindfulness and Resilience

Embodied mindfulness practices build the capacity to navigate stress

Reading the messages of the body

- Recognizing the early warning signs of anxiety
- · Checking in with my body

Engaging and strengthening our inner resources

- Body
- Breath
- Mindset

### **Activities for Managing Escalating Emotions and Finding Equilibrium**

Grounding

- · Feeling my feet Somatic holds
- Orienting
- · Layers of sound
- Five senses Tapping

Managing intrusive thoughts and rumination

- Single pointed focus
- · Naming my thoughts

#### What to Do When Anxiety Shows up: Response Strategy Skills

Ask for help

Partner chair pose

Take a break

- Calming breath
- Legs up the wall

#### Keep trying

- · Managing frustration and other strong emotions
- Standing balance
- Chair pose

#### **Practices for Building Agency and Personal Power to Enhance Resilience**

Change your mindset, change your nervous system

- The warriors
- Finger affirmations
- · Mountain top visualization
- Harness the power of helping others
- Partner warrior three
- Leading a practice

#### **Activities to Fight Anxiety with Connection** and Attunement

Imaginary ball pass

Rainstorm

Crazy 8s

Kind wishes

### Live Seminar Schedule

7:30 Registration/Morning Coffee & Tea

**8:00** Program begins

**11:50-1:00** Lunch (on your own)

**4:00** Program ends

There will be two 15-min breaks (mid-morning & mid-afternoon). Actual lunch and break start times are at the discretion of the speaker. A more detailed schedule is available upon request.

# **OBJECTIVES**

- 1. Consider the impact of family, school, media and global events on children as it relates to anxiety
- 2. Identify various forms of anxiety, and learn to use anxiety as an information gathering tool.
- 3. Build client capacity to identify rising anxiety before it becomes overwhelming or debilitating.
- 4. Explain how to manage escalating emotions and intrusive thoughts with embodied practices.
- 5. Develop differentiated strategies to address anxiety rooted in building self-awareness, capacity
- 6. Enhance resilience through personal and partner-based practices.

#### **Target Audience:**

Counselors • Social Workers • Therapists • Educators • Marriage & Family Therapists • Speech-Language Pathologists Occupational Therapists • Occupational Therapy Assistants Nurses • Other Mental Health Professionals





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# ANXIETY in Children & Adolescents

Yoga and Mindfulness Skills to Create Calm, Navigate Stress, and Restore **Emotional Balance** 

Plainview. NY Tuesday, July 23, 2019

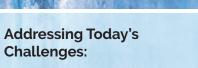
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Academic pressure Over-scheduling

Social media

and more!

to Reduce: Withdrawal Procrastination

**Tools and Resources** 

and other symptoms

Perfectionism

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ANXIETY

in Children

& Adolescents

Yoga and Mindfulness Skills to Create

Calm, Navigate Stress, and Restore

**Emotional Balance** 

"Little Flower Yoga offers a step-by-step map to help

you make this body-centered mindfulness practice a

regular part of your life with the kids you care for."

- Daniel J. Siegel, MD

Author of bestselling books Brainstorm and The Whole-Brain Child



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# **ANXIETY** in Children & Adolescents

Do you work with children whose anxiety is overwhelming them, who shy away from participating in new activities or taking on challenges because they are afraid to fail....or you worry they'll choose harmful coping mechanisms as they struggle with the stress of their lives?

When children can't cope, challenges become stressors, and anxiety replaces anticipation. Our kids can't enjoy childhood to the fullest, their learning suffers, and their long-term resilience is compromised.

Kids often get a message that their anxiety is something to get rid of or push away, but like all emotions our anxiety has a job to do.

Join Alexa Wolkoff, kids' yoga and mindfulness expert, in this interactive seminar to discover how to teach our kids to better understand their own experience, and find effective ways to meet their needs and engage in their lives from a place of personal power and agency.

Your immediate takeaways will help your clients and students (Kids):

Prepare for anxiety producing situations

Navigate stress

Reduce overwhelm and reactivity

Participate fully in school and home

Harness their capacity for self-compassion

You'll walk away with a new framework for relating to anxiety, along with concrete practices to help your clients and students learn to access their inner resources, calm their anxiety, transform their relationship to stress, and thrive even when life is challenging.

Don't miss out - sign up today!

### **SPEAKERS**

Alexa Wolkoff, LCSW, RYT is a psychotherapist, community yoga studio founder, and yoga and meditation teacher in Northern Westchester. In her private psychotherapy practice, Alexa works with children, adolescents, adults and families both individually and in groups. Her interest is in helping clients move mindfully through major life transitions. She specializes in women getting reacquainted with their bodies after crisis, trauma, loss and the disembodiment associated with disordered eating, compulsive exercise and addiction. Alexa advocates that health is possible at every body size.

Alexa opened and runs an accessible community yoga studio- which has both children and adult class programs. She teaches group and private yoga classes. Her teaching focuses on the ways in which gentle movement, mindfulness and meditation can affect the nervous system and emotional regulation. Alexa has a holistic view of wellness that includes the entire person-physically, emotionally and spiritually.

Speaker Disclosures

Financial: Alexa Wolkoff maintains a private practice. She is the director of Sol Yoga, LLC. Ms. Wolkoff receives a speaking honorarium from

Non-financial: Alexa Wolkoff has no relevant non-financial relationship to disclose.



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By Jennifer Cohen Harper, MA, E-RYT, RCYT, Argos Gonzalez, M.ED. and Mayuri Breen Gonzalez

Yoga and Mindfulness Practices for Teens Card Deck offers over 50 practices to help teens become stronger, more flexible, get better rest, manage anxiety and learn to navigate stressful situations without becoming overwhelmed. Beautifully illustrated by Karen Gilmour, coupled with easy-to-read and easy-to-implement



### Mindful Chair Yoga Card Deck

50+ Practices for All Ages

By Jennifer Cohen Harper, MA, E-RYT, RCYT and Mayuri Breen Gonzalez

Mindful Chair Yoga is a powerful way to harness key benefits of the practice: become stronger, more flexible, navigate challenging situations without becoming overwhelmed, rest when you need it, and much more. Each card includes a reflection question to help engage fully with the activities. This easy-to-use card deck contains 50+ practices that can support everyone - children, teens and adults - in living a happier, healthier life.

### Questions? Call customer service at 800-844-8260



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