



## Unedited Feedback from live-online training courses in 2020

### **(Zoom Training 1 & 2)**

*'I realize that Basic Concepts have to be developed before going into FIE. This is exactly the course I need to work with my daughter. I will remember most about this course is mostly everything as I will be using this on a weekly basis. I was surprised at how good the content is on the website. Especially the videos of mediating the student. Zoom was really good. The odd little problem but the ability to review the lessons more than made up for any technical issues. I will follow up with extra mentoring as it's smart to get the most out of this material and training. I will recommend to others!'*

*'I really enjoyed the training. It was very personable with hands-on practice, very detailed instructions and examples. It was thought provoking. If I could comment on one area of improvement it would be time pacing. It would have been a little easier to plan around family if I knew how long the session would be and how many days. Thank you for everything Louis!'*

*'I have been taking Bright Start Classes too online. I thought Basic Concepts may be very much the same materials but they are not. While both are cognitive curriculum based learning they are focusing on different areas and dovetail together for an additional learning to include in my therapy sessions and hopefully in the kindergarten, 1st, 2nd grade classes at my school. I do resource learning every week during the school year and hope to add Basic Concepts and Bright Start to the classrooms. I plan to have meetings with teachers and administration later this summer to formulate a plan and introduce what I have learned. My school is used to me thinking this way, mediated learning and my teachers love me showing how to do things from a different perspective. I can also incorporate Basic Concepts in my Art classes because the higher concepts align with Art.'*

*'Middag Dr Louis Voordat ek met die kusus begin het het ek gewonder of ek dit sal verstaan en of my aandag elke sessie geprikkel sal word en ek het ook gewonder hoe ons ondersteun gaan word in die kusus. Ek moet sê dat na die eerste sessie het*

ek besef dat ek nie graag 1 sessie wil mis nie en ek het ontsettend uitgesien na elke lesing. Dit was ook vir my verskriklik lekker die manier hoe u ons elkeen betrek het. En veral vir my wat al Afrikaanse "student" was. Ek was nooit skaam om deel te neem nie. Baie dankie daarvoor. Ek het nooit kon dink dat BASIESE KONSEPTE so wyd kan strek nie. Ek het net gedink dat kinders hierby baat sal vind, maar ekself kon net so baie hier baat vind en veral met die manier wat ek nou geleer het hoe om iets te verduidelik. Vir die eerste keer verstaan ek hoekom daar so baie verskillende stappe by wiskunde is en wat die nut van elke aspek vir die kind beteken. Ek is ook so ontsettend bly dat ek die kursus via ZOOM kon bywoon. Anders sou dit nooit vir my moontlik gewees het om sulke kursusse enigsins te kon doen nie. Nogmaals baie dankie vir alles. Ek gaan beslis weer vir u kontak as ek van iets onseker is. Mooi dag en baie seën vir u werk!!

*'Basic Concepts exceeded my expectations for the information it gave me. Just like a Feuerstein class changes you mentally forever I will now look at concepts differently. I believe children have that thirst for knowledge of how things work. Several of the children I work with as an educational therapist need taught strategies. They need them modelled and the wait time to process the thinking not have the rote memory teaching which doesn't last over time or have the connections to understanding and bridging to other areas. I also like how the program allowed the child to hold multiple pieces of information without the child being aware that is what they were doing. Color, shape and where is it found in what position with precision and accuracy. This surprised me how easy the children were able to grasp these cognitive functions of holding multiple pieces. I think the course should be lengthened to 2.5 hour sessions when online. I think if I had written up a session planner with each session with guided examples. When done I would have had one session planned out for each higher order concepts, even if it was the first session planner for each one. I would have liked short taped session showing part of a lesson to watch on my own. I think you could use the camera better with the demonstration in this way. I liked how it allowed me to grow in my thinking to explain to my student that vowels and consonants are a last name for each letter and shows which family group they belong too. Y belongs to both family groups, this will make sense to him and stick with him. I am happy I found this class and signed up for it.'*

*'I have enjoyed the BCP online training. I do think it was of great benefit as I have learned new approaches to help children learn. I also thought that BCP is also very helpful to children with difficulty as it provides them with concrete experience through manipulating the materials and being asked different questions to help them be aware of their way of thinking. Louis was very thorough and delivered the smallest details to help us understand the method. I found that very helpful and it enabled me to use it with my kids who have difference in age and needs. I also enjoyed attending the training via Zoom as Louis was very efficient in using different features to make the training practical, fun and enjoyable.'*

*'Before the course I was never focused on the main concepts as I never really thought them essential to "real life" as a speech language pathologist. I guess you would say that I focused more on "practical" language. I knew that categories were important but only worked on them a little later. I now have a very different perspective on why these aspects are important and how they move cognition forward. The lesson on number and letter really surprised me as how the build-up on the foundational skills leads into number and letter. I was literally "awestruck." I had always seen them as separate skills. I will second Safa and really appreciated the time that you gave us to ask and feel out the information and that you really are very "approachable" in how you relate to information and to the questions that we had. What can I say, a real "mentch." The shares from the parents were invaluable. I always have parents with me in session; however, I have an even more empathetic outlook. Some of the feedback really made me want to cry. It really shed light on the significant struggles for the parents as these parents are true seekers for change. When I see parents with children I realize now that I have to put more emphasis on going slowly and systematically and be there with them more for the process as the results can be very slow in coming. I have to be honest and say that initially I had my doubts that children that struggled for so long with concepts will be able to learn these concepts. And wow, you really opened my eyes into perspective taking on how we are really confusing our kids. The technology aspect was great. I know there are a few glitches, but honestly, I would never have gotten to your course had there not been Zoom. I am really grateful for that. I also want to add that you showing us the process with a real live person was really appreciated as they say you cannot compare seeing it in action to just hearing about it.'*

*'I have to say that before the course - I thought that it would just be a smallish course on the basic concepts. This was due to the title "Basic Concepts" and the cost of the course. However, after the course, as I have heard many others say. I have realised how much depth and value there is to the Program and how beneficial and easy (in a positive sense) it is to implement it into schools and educational systems. As I have mentioned during the course, I have felt a better understanding and more confidence in areas such as internalisation and representation of single concepts even if they seem simple deepened through questions such as "How do you know?" The concept of "one leads to two and two to many", is something which carries through in the fabric of the whole course and through Louis himself and is something which has really helped me in life approach, for e.g. in teaching or in dealing with issues as I am prone to start doing too many things at once. It was very nice to have such easy and pleasant collaboration across many countries and continents and to meet all these people sharing a common aim. Technology was always going to be a bit of an issue but we seemed to cope ok. Perhaps a few more breakout zoom sessions would have been nice. It was really nice to see the practical hands on with a "live specimen" the sweet girl (I forgot her name!). It was a pleasure to meet Louis for the first time. I found his approach to training extremely helpful: Down to earth, practical, open to questions, his immersion and dedication to the program (unlike some trainings where the trainers are not currently fully involved), very approachable. Seeming "to get" the trainees, what needs to be taught and how to teach it. (Even in the sentence stem/prompts above this paragraph are a perfect example of finding practical ways to aid reflection and a more productive response from the trainees.) As with these types of courses I always feel it is a shame to have to stop and go back to the real world. But I suppose this is why we joined it in the first place. Wishing Louis and everyone else much luck and success in the future in furthering the development and awareness of the cognitive Program and cognition.'*