

**SPROUTS** is an early intervention program conducted by the La Cañada Unified School District (LCUSD) benefiting young children in pre-school through kindergarten with learning disabilities and/or serious language delays. Funding is afforded to the District principally by Cañada Auxiliary of Professionals, Assistance League® of Flintridge (CAP/ALF). The program is available only to La Cañada residents.



### **FURTHER INQUIRIES:**

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*For information about Assistance League of Flintridge  
and Cañada Auxiliary of Professionals  
visit [ALFlintridge.org](http://ALFlintridge.org)*

**LA CAÑADA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **EARLY INTERVENTION ENRICHMENT PROGRAM**

# **SPROUTS**

**Established 1992**



Provided by  
Cañada Auxiliary of Professionals  
Assistance League of Flintridge



## BEGINNINGS

The name *SPROUTS* was chosen to signify positive growth and development.

*SPROUTS* symbolizes youth, possibility, potential and upward movement. The La Cañada community had long recognized a need for assistance to the very young.

Encouragement and special assistance at an early age will benefit some children with significant delays in learning and language development and might reduce the need for special assistance in later years.

Recognizing the benefits of early interventions, the LCUSD and CAP/ALF initiated formal support for the *SPROUTS* program. The first session of *SPROUTS* was conducted in September of 1992, and the program continues to be an innovative, successful experience for children and their parents.

## TEAM

The multidisciplinary team consists of an early childhood special education teacher, a speech and language therapist, a teacher's assistant, and parents of the child. The

team assesses the needs of the child as he/she is initially placed in the program.. All children admitted into the *SPROUTS* program have La Cañada Unified School District Individualized Education Plans (IEP).



## THE PROGRAM

*SPROUTS* is a language based program encouraging both receptive and expressive skills. Activities are geared toward sensory motor skills, discovery, and exploration. Specific goal areas include social, fine and gross motor, speech and language, and readiness.

An important component of the program is parent involvement. During the school

year (September through June), *SPROUTS* meets twice weekly (Monday and Wednesday afternoons) for hourly sessions. Monday afternoons are attended by children. Wednesday afternoons are attended by parents and children. Parents participate in activities with their children and receive parenting skills training and additional information from professional team members. An environment of mutual support and respect for parents, children, and professional team members is established to foster positive growth and understanding.

## REFERRALS

Parents, doctors, pre-school teachers, psychologists, speech and language therapists, and Student Study Teams make referrals. After an initial intake interview with the parents by the LCUSD school site team (school of residence), an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and placement plan is developed, and children who would benefit from the program are enrolled.