

I am very excited to be joining the Chatterboks team. I have always been passionate about fostering positive development and growth in young children. Earning my Bachelor's degree in Human Development and Family Sciences from Oregon State University was a pivotal step in helping to realize my passion. During one of my special education courses I learned about Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), which forever changed my future. I became dedicated to helping young children communicate and decided to pursue a career as a Speech Language Pathologist. I continued my education at University of Oregon, where I completed a Post Baccalaureate program in Communication Sciences and Disorders. Shortly after finishing the program, I began working in Idaho as a Speech Language Pathologist Assistant at a preschool. The experiences I gained and connections I made during this time intensified my desire to further my education in this field.

Due to family needs, I moved to a small rural community with my now-husband, where I taught preschool while completing my Master's degree in Speech Language Pathology from Idaho State University. During the completion of my program, I was able to gain amazing experiences that included working at summer camps, university clinics, K-12 schools, outpatient rehabilitation centers and completing both an internship and externship with Chatterboks!

After the completion of my graduate program, I began working as an SLP in a public school. I loved getting to know my students and watch them grow. However, I realized that I desired to work closer with families and children in a home-based, child centered setting. When Kristin reached out to me about joining the Chatterboks team, I jumped at the opportunity!

I am very excited to get to know the Chatterboks families. Building a positive relationship is the foundation for my therapy. I strive to create positive connections through play and engaging activities in natural environments. Working closely with children and their families, I hope to identify communication needs and obstacles to provide individualized therapy that will best benefit each child. Collaboration with families and other professionals is important to me, and I am excited to work with caregivers to teach strategies and provide activities to facilitate speech and language development at home.