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Career TIMES

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CAPE TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2010

cozens

Customer Service Call Centre Woodstock

Long-term Temp Assignment

For those who expect the best, then listen up. Your professional touch will allow you to grow with this amazing company. If you have Matric, speak and write eloquent English, have exp on MS Office plus at least 1yr Call Centre/ Retail exp, then capitalize on this fantastic offer. If you are studying part-time, then this is an opportunity for you. Credit clear a must.

Call Anita at Cozens (021) 910 0711

How to become a child play therapist

BEFORE being accepted on any of the child play therapy honours or Master's programmes you have to complete a series of psychometric and psychological tests.

You must be energetic and enthusiastic about working with children. You also need lots of patience and empathy.

It also helps to have experienced some personality-shaping event, not necessarily traumatic.

A teaching or nursing background will also stand you in good stead.

When you first set up your practice you must be prepared to work hard, see everyone who comes to you and put yourself out to accommodate their time constraints.

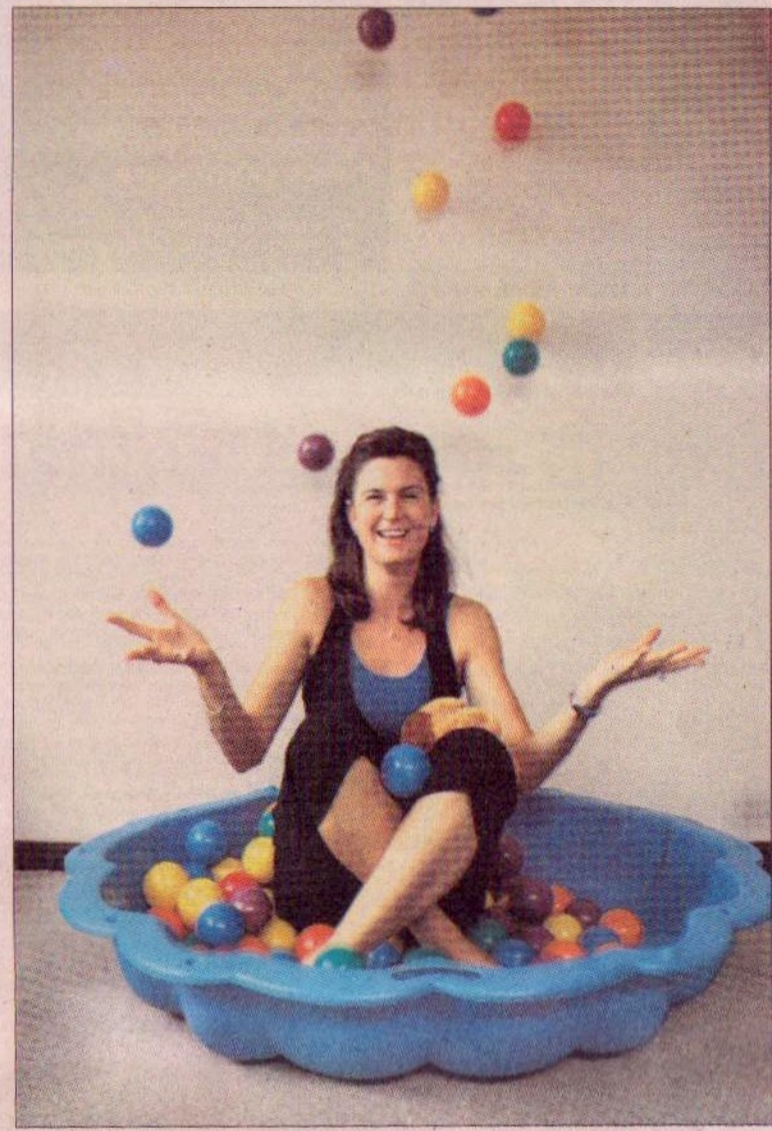
Qualifications needed: You need a four-year degree in any of the social sciences, and a Master's degree in child play therapy.

To become a qualified child play therapist you will have to complete a three-year Master's degree through Stellenbosch University.

Where to train: Stellenbosch University and Hugenote College in Wellington.

Expected earnings: You can expect to earn R10 000 to R20 000 a month.

Contact: Jodi Lord at 082 371 8566; Stellenbosch University at 021 808 9111; Hugenote College at 021 873 1181, e-mail hugenote@hugenote.co.za or visit www.hugenote.co.za; University of the Western Cape at 021 959 2911; University of Cape Town at 021 650 9111.



SERIOUS BUSINESS: Child play therapist Jodi Lord helps children deal with psychosocial and other problems.

Real jobs, real people

- Today: Jodi Lord
- Job: Child play therapist and counsellor
- Qualifications: MA in Child Play Therapy, PGCE, Trauma Counselling Diploma
- Place of work: Private practice

By Sarah-Jane Bosch

Every Monday Sarah-Jane Bosch interviews real people at work in Cape Town.

Child's play all in a day's work

What does your job entail? Child play therapy is an effective way to help children work through a variety of problems in a non-threatening manner, including emotional, psychosocial and behavioural difficulties, as well as family issues.

The idea is to develop a relationship between the child and the therapist. The therapist enters the child's world, following the child's lead and developing a safe place and relationship of trust. The role of the therapist is to assist the child through this process. The sessions are very goal-directed, rather than just periods where the child comes to play.

The sort of problems I help them deal with include parents getting divorced; traumas like hijacking, burglaries and muggings; sibling deaths; and general behavioural problems like acting out in class and bullying. I sometimes see groups of children who are bullies or who are being bullied.

Most problems can be resolved in eight sessions, once a week, which works out to about one school term. Usually that is long enough, but sometimes you need a bit more time to deal with divorce cases.

Average work day: I try to fit in early morning meetings for parents who work. Then I deal with e-mails from parents and teachers to keep me up to date with what is happening with their children, and set up appointments. I often do one or two classroom observations in the morning - I prefer to do several in one day rather than one every day.

From about 12.30 till 2.30 pm I do sessions with the children, followed by meetings with parents. I usually see my last client from 4 to 5 pm. It's best not to see more than three children in an afternoon and not more than two parents.

Sometimes I have meetings with parents in the evenings because it's important to see both parents, which can be tricky if they are working during the day.

Best part of the job: Being a part of the child's learning and growth is really rewarding.

Worst part of the job: I don't enjoy the financial aspect - dealing with invoices and receipts.

Why did you choose this career? I love children and I have a strong desire to help children who are in need. I started with psychology as an undergraduate, and realised you can't do anything with honours in psychology, so I decided to do a conversion course and do teaching, which is helpful.

I taught for a while in the UK and South Africa, and started doing my Master's degree part-time while I was teaching.

In the second year I decided to study full-time. I completed my MA in child play therapy at Stellenbosch University, did a BA Psych Equivalence at Hugenote College in Wellington, and my internship at a school in Hanover Park.

Are you paid enough? Yes, I'm satisfied.

Rate your work stress on a scale of 1 to 10: Stress levels are high - 8 or 9 - because you are constantly dealing with people who have problems and you have to be careful not to burn out.



BANKING TELLERS Temp Positions

Various areas, Top financial institution requires figure orientated candidates who would enjoy counting and balancing large amounts of cash. **Matric, Maths and credit clearance is essential.** Suitable candidates should be flexible to work between the hours of 10h00 and Midnight and on Saturday mornings. Own or reliable transport a must. Full training will be provided.

Contact Amanda and Mandisa on 021 413 4700
 E-mail your cv to recruitment@quest.co.za

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 - Credit and Criminal clearance.
 - Have you answered YES to all the above?

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It is **YOUR** career!
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- Matriculated
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- Credit & Crim clearance essential
- Fluent in English and Afrikaans

The ideal person should have sales experience, high energy levels, excellent