

# She makes learning FUN -damental

Trainer observes individual styles, turns study time into play time

By KRISTINA GRANT  
Special to The Daily Oakland Press

**K**imberly Kassner will do almost anything to make a point. She pretended to be an alien who couldn't make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich; she blew up her cheeks to look like a monkey; and she set the introduction of Romeo and Juliet to the beats of rap music.

She is on a quest to make the most out of learning, and to make learning fun. In her two-day workshops, she teaches people how easy it is to learn.

"Education doesn't have to be work," says Kassner, a 42-year-old mother, wife, teacher and writer as well as business creator.

This Commerce Township woman has a full plate, but the constant energy in her voice is a sign she can easily handle things.

Besides focusing on her 3-year-old son and husband of six years,

Peter Earley, Kassner dedicates her time to teaching students how to "maximize their learning potential."

While in California in 1990, she worked with at-risk children and her philosophy was if she could make them better learners, she could make her program work with anyone.

Just one year later she jump-started EmpowerMind, a two-day workshop to help students master academic tasks, build self-confidence, retain information and discover how to convert information into their individual learning style.

Kassner says she recently returned to her native state of Michigan to continue her work. "This is where my heart is," she says.

Kassner is so confident in her teaching



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Learning specialist and academic coach Kimberly Kassner works with 17-year-old Mike Miller, a senior at Walled Lake Central.