G.R.O.W. (Getting Ready for Our World)
A Secondary Program for Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorders

The program focuses on 7 primary areas of development:

- Functional Academic Skills (money, time, reading)
- Communication Skills (social/emotional, AAC)
- Interpersonal Skills (social thinking, interaction)
- Independent/Functional Living Skills (safety, cooking, public transportation)
- Leisure Skills (movie theatre, playing games)
- Pre-Vocational Skills (following 2 step directions, following a schedule)
- Vocational Skills (completing a job checklist, self-monitoring completion)

G.R.O.W. Program Goals:

- Provide a high level of support through academic curriculum (evidence-based ABA therapy through functional skills curriculum) and vocational skill building,
- Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC), evidence-based behavioral interventions and individualized programming
- High staff to student ratio allows the G.R.O.W program to closely monitor student progress, with independence as the end goal.
- Highly trained staff able to manage severe behaviors, provide motivation and form truly caring relationships with all students.
- Collaborative learning relationships with community partners including charter schools, the University of Utah, the Humane Society of Utah, and local grocery stores provide students’ authentic vocational training based on their personal goals and individual interests.
- Meet each individual where they are.
- Target each area of development through experiential learning in naturalistic environments, reducing prompt dependency and increasing autonomy.
- Foster a supportive community. Build independence, self-confidence and ability. Expand our awareness and social responsibility to the larger community.
- Track outcome data including longitudinal data for future program enhancements

For more information, please contact the G.R.O.W. program at the Carmen B. Pingree Autism Center of Learning
801.581.0194
Director: Julia Hood, PhD
Autism Specialist: Markell McCubbin, M.Ed