



Conscious Discipline with Exceptional Children

For All Ages

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Ensure SAFETY Through the Use of Visuals



Structure FIRST / Nurture SECOND

Enough cannot be said about the importance of a consistent and predictable routine with accompanied visuals. Children require this in order to feel safe. Individual schedules and structured task activities provide children with a true feeling of safety and security.



Establish Joint Attention to Create CONNECTIONS



Joint Attention is the process of sharing one's experience of observing an object or event by following gaze or pointing gestures. Joint attention should emerge around 9 months of age and be very well established by 18 months of age. It provides a critical foundation for social, cognitive and language development.

Hot Dog Game: Materials: blanket or beach towel. Have your child lie down on the towel as you wrap them up like a hot dog bun. Leave feet and head outside the blanket. Use empty condiment containers to pretend to put mustard, ketchup, relish and anything else you would apply to a hot dog. Pretend to gobble up the hot dog at the end.

Support PROBLEM-SOLVING by Teaching Social Skills



The Skill of Getting Your Friend's Attention - TAP, SAY, LOOK

Organizational Strategies:

- Individual picture schedule
- Transition cues
- Small group instruction
- Clearly defined space
- Preferential seating
- PECS (picture exchange)
- Daily routine
- Social skills pictures

Instructional Strategies:

- Repetition
- Redirection
- Hand over hand
- Expectant pause
- Increased wait time
- Teacher proximity
- Exaggerated movements and tone

Communication Support Strategies:

- Verbal prompts
- Visual prompts
- Gestures (pointing)
- Sign language
- Voice output devices
- Joint attention

For more information:

TEACCH.com (Autism Program, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill)

Prekese.DadeSchools.net (Miami-Dade County Public Schools)

SpecialYoga.com (Yoga for children with special needs)

setbc.org/pictureset/Default.aspx (picture communication boards)

ateachabout.com (Sensory Integration)

TeachMoreLoveMore.org (educational awareness)

www.devereux.org (DECA assessment of protective factors & behavioral concerns)



Conscious Discipline Intervention Plan SAFETY, CONNECTION, PROBLEM-SOLVING

Adaptations and strategies to support **PROBLEM-SOLVING**



Adaptations and strategies to create **CONNECTIONS**



Adaptations and strategies to ensure **SAFETY**


