



Strategies for Teaching based-on Autism Research The STAR Program



Introductions Presenter/Participants

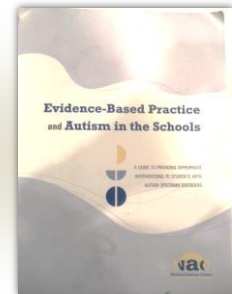
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A Comprehensive Research-Based Behavioral Program

- ❖ Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) Instructional Strategies Used:
 - Discrete Trial
 - Pivotal Response Training
 - Teaching Functional Routines
 - Positive Behavior Supports
- ❖ Six Curriculum Content Areas Addressed:
 - Expressive language
 - Receptive language
 - Spontaneous language
 - Functional routines
 - Pre-academic skills
 - Play and social interaction concepts

Foundation: Evidence-Based Practices

- Principles of ABA
- Task Analysis
- Discrete Trial Training
- Reinforcement Systems
- Peer Mediated Instruction
- Schedules
- Visual Supports
- Aug Communication
- Self-Management
- Modeling/Imitation
- Pivotal Response Training



Research on the STAR Program (Research-validated Curriculum)

- Oregon Autism Outcome Study. (Arick, J., Young, H., Falco, R., Loos, L., Krug, D., Gense, M. and Johnson, S. 2003)
- Philadelphia Autism Instructional Methods Study (AIMS) represents an academic-public partnership designed to improve intervention quality for elementary school children with autism in the School District of Philadelphia. Mandell (2010).
Results of the study indicated students made clinically significant gains in classrooms where STAR was implemented with fidelity.
- Measuring Outcomes in Early Intervention Program. (Bacon, E., Dufek, S., Schreibmann, L., Stahmer, A., Pierce, K. and Courchesne, E. 2014)
Children in early intervention programs made significant skill gains. Student Learning Profile correlated highly with standardized measures

Comprehensive Programs Include.....

How To Teach

Evidence-based and Research-validated Instructional Strategies

What To Teach

Appropriate Content of Instruction

Everything Working Together

- a. IEP Goals
- b. Connection to General Education Curriculum
- c. Alignment with Standards

Research-Based (ABA) Instructional Strategies used in the STAR Program:

- ❖ **Discrete Trial Training** is used to teach new skills (acquisition)
- ❖ **Pivotal Response Training** is used to teach student to request their wants and to use skills in a more naturalistic setting
- ❖ **Functional Routines Teaching** is used to apply new skills in a variety of natural settings in context (generalization)
- ❖ **Positive Behavior Supports** throughout the day

Instructional Strategies: Discrete Trial Training



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Instructional Strategies: Pivotal Response Training



Instructional Strategies: Functional Routines Throughout the Day



Positive Behavior Supports

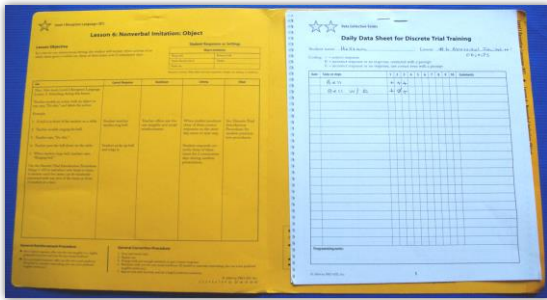


Throughout the instructional day, students are provided continual reinforcement and positive feedback to assist in learning appropriate behaviors and social skills.

Data Driven Instruction Transition Routine

Cue	Response	Date		Teaching Strategies Added
Adult says "check schedule"	Student walks towards schedule	4/22	5/6	Teach Skills: • Attending • One step directions Add supports to routine: • Check schedule icon
Schedule in a consistent location	Student looks at schedule	0	4	Teach Skills: • Attending • Motor Imitation Add supports to routine: • Schedule at eye level on red board
Symbol for next activity is on schedule	Student locates and takes symbol for next activity	1	4	
Activity location available	Student goes to location that matches symbol	1	3	Teach Skills: • Walking beside an adult • Object to picture matching Add supports to routine: • Matching photo available at locations
Environment prepared for child to join next activity	Student enters area and sits/stands for next activity	2	2	
Data Code:	0= no response	0	2	
	1= full prompt	5	5	
	2= partial prompt			
	3= verbal/gesture prompt			
	4= independent			
		0%	40%	

Lesson Plans Consistency of Instruction



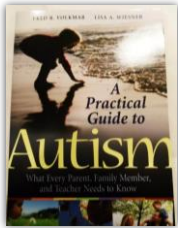
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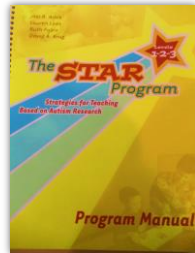
Additional Information/Research Related to the STAR Program

"A Practical Guide to Autism"
By Volkmar & Wiesner. Wiley Press, 2009.



Recommends the STAR Program as an effective school program.

The STAR Program Manual



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The STAR Program Version 2: Coming April 15, 2015



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