



CHOICE BOARD OF CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES INFORMATION SHEET

Definition: A board that has pictures/icons on it for a child to choose from and give one to an adult (therefore increasing social communication opportunities).

Purpose:

- Help a child make a choice by providing an alternative method of communicating
- Use the picture/icon as a bridge until words are developed
- Help the child understand that adults are there to help

Benefits -- Enables a child to:

- Access the curriculum while increasing his/her participation
- Make a choice even though he/she might have limited vocabulary
- Interact socially with adults
- Play in a variety of areas, with a variety of toys, instead of sticking to favorite activities

CAN SUPPORT CHILDREN WHO HAVE:

- Speech and Language Delays
- Difficulty Processing Verbal Input
- Attention Deficit Disorder & ADHD
- Autism & Asperger's Syndrome
- English As a Second Language
- Hearing impairments

DIRECTIONS FOR SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION:

1. Choose a specific number of icons/pictures from the center of the folder (based on child's ability) and place them on the back of the choice board.
2. Get down on the child's level and face the child.
3. Present the back of the choice board to the child.
4. Ask the child to choose 1 picture by taking it off and handing it to you.
5. Hold the picture by your mouth and say the word.
6. Give the child an expectant look, pause, and wait.
7. If the child attempts to say the word reinforce with praise.
8. If not, go to step 9.
9. Implement the child's choice.

Making It Harder:

Once the child can say the icons/picture words consistently, then increase the difficulty. Have the child choose a picture, put it on the "I want" strip, and then hand the strip to you. Say, "I want...", and give the child an expectant look, pause, and wait to see if he/she will repeat the phrase. After mastering this skill, then begin to fade out the pictures until they are no longer necessary or make a new, harder sentence strip such as "play with..." or "I want to play..."
(Make new pictures by cutting out/laminating pictures of your classroom toys from toy catalogs)

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