

The Essential Eight Skills and A Primary Method of Speaking: Important Goals for Early and Lifelong Intervention

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In the *VB-MAPP*, Dr. Mark Sundberg describes certain types of skill deficits as barriers to effective instruction. In *Essential for Living*, a functional skills curriculum and teaching manual also based on B.F. Skinner's analysis of verbal behavior, we have further specified these skill deficits as *an effective and efficient primary method of speaking* and *The Essential Eight Skills*. Dr. McGreevy will describe these skills, along with their importance in early intervention programs and programs that provide intervention across the life span. Dr. McGreevy will also describe the similarity between this work and Dr. Greg Hanley's work on synthesized functional assessments and the teaching of communication, cooperation, and toleration.

Learner objectives:

- Participants will describe the importance of an effective and efficient primary method of speaking
- Participants will describe the Essential Eight Skills and examples thereof
- Participants will describe how a method of speaking the Essential Eight Skills are important for the prevention and treatment of socially-mediated problem behavior