Paraeducator Practices

A Newsletter for Paraeducators and Their Teachers Educational Equity for All

May 2020

Paraeducator Symbol

Just as the extra pair of wings enables the dragonfly to accomplish astounding aeronautic gymnastics, paraeducators have become the extra pair of hands that allows teachers to truly support and MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR EVERY STUDENT

twig EDUCATION t.ly/IhMU

Free Independent Learning Packs for Distance Learning
We've created a series of grade-level independent learning packets for you to share with your students in distance learning environments while schools across the country are closed.

In order to use these lessons, you'll first need to sign up for Twig Science Tools and then download the packets using the button below.

We've also provided a set of teaching and research aids, including graphic organizers and advice about working like a scientist to help with distance learning.

NGSS-Aligned Resources for K–5
An award-winning supplemental resource with short videos in English and Spanish, visuals, and hands-on investigative activities.

Flipgrid is 100% free for all educators, learners, and families. Engage and empower every voice in your classroom or at home by recording and sharing short, awesome videos...together!
10,000+ ready-to-launch Topics just for you
Ignite discussion with launch-ready, resource-packed, age- and subject-specific Topics from your fellow educators around the world. Every Topic can be modified to meet the specific needs of your learners or simply launched as-is! Also, check out weekly Topic Playlists from our inspiring Disco Library partners!
https://info.flipgrid.com/

Assistive Technology to Support Social-Emotional Development for Young Children
This workshop is designed for parents and professionals to learn about the wide range of assistive technology available to help support the social-emotional development of young children.

https://www.pacer.org/livestream/archive.asp

EDUCATIONAL EQUITY FOR ALL
Giving kids what they need to succeed.

FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH

Project Learning Tree uses trees and forests as windows on the world to increase students' understanding of the environment and actions they can take to conserve it. You don't need a formal education degree to use PLT. While our activities employ highly effective and well-tested teaching strategies, they can be used by anyone. Each activity provides step-by-step instructions for getting ready, conducting the activity, and assessing learning. Many activities can be conducted in an hour, rely on simple materials that you likely already have on hand, and can be implemented with minimal prep time. https://www.plt.org/
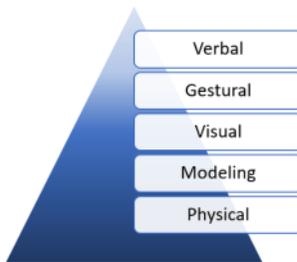
Accessible ABA
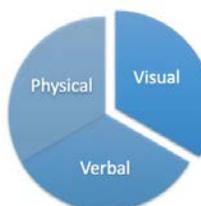### Unlocking Potential

The 3 Prompt Hierarchies
The 3 prompt hierarchies presented here are often pictured as part of the same continuum, but this can be misleading. The following pyramid is a common depiction of the prompt hierarchy. The challenge is applying these prompts to different types of tasks and the unique learning styles of your learner.

Look at the pyramid above. Using most-to-least prompting, you would start at the bottom and fade prompts up the pyramid, but how do prompts for a verbal target? The short answer is: you don't. Physical prompts don't fit programming for a target requiring a verbal response.

Picturing 3 separate hierarchies that intermingle can help clarify your decision-making process. If you consider physical, verbal and visual prompts to be each distinctive continuums, then you determine which continuum best suits the current target. Take a look at the image below:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

https://www.slideshare.net/nrcpara/session-44-strategies-for-preventing-problem-behavior

The good news is you can change Behavior. The bad news is it's going to take a little while. So, first things first, here are the four steps to changing Behavior.
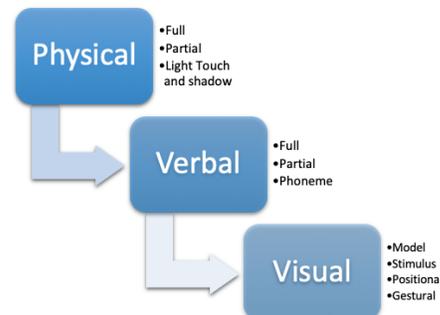
- Defining the Behavior
- Collecting Data
- Determining the Function
- Designing the Behavior Plan

It seems like such a no brainer, but when you are sitting in a classroom getting the snot smacked out of you all day long it gets hard to think things through logically. The only thing running through your head is how to make it all stop.
http://www.noodlenook.net/replacement-behavior-hitting/

The 3 Prompt Hierarchies Continued
Each of these continuums include several prompt levels as pictured below.

https://accessibleaba.com/blog/new-perspective-prompt-hierarchy