

Time Delay Strategies

What are Time Delay (TD) Strategies?

- Non-verbal strategies that encourage your child to communicate with you
 - Inadequate Portions: providing small or inadequate portions of preferred materials.
 - Assistance: creating situations in which the child needs the adult's help.
 - Waiting with Routine: setting up a routine in which the child expects certain actions and then waiting before doing the expected action again.
 - Waiting with Cue: using associated objects (e.g., shoe to foot) and then waiting before completing the expected action.
 - Choice Making: holding up two objects and waiting for the child to communicate about which item he/she wants.

Why Use TD Strategies?

- Provides the child with more opportunities to practice communicating
 - Increases the child's rate of communication
- Provides the adult with more opportunities to teach new language by
 - Responding
 - Expanding the child's communication

How to Use TD Strategies?

- Set up the opportunity to encourage your child to communicate by using an environmental arrangement strategy
- Wait until your child communicates (gestures, vocalizes, says a word)
- Expand this communication with a target

When to Use TD Strategies?

- Use TD Strategies when the child is not communicating frequently (e.g., less than 2 times per minute)
- Some strategies work better than others for different children
 - Use the ones that work best for the child
 - Avoid TD strategies that frustrate the child