Caregiver Packet
Functional Communication Training
Attention Packet

Vocabulary in this training:

1. **FCT:** stands for functional communication training and is the function-based intervention we will use to reduce your child's challenging behaviors. FCT can be used across attention, tangible, and escape functions of problem behavior.

2. **Reinforcement/Reinforcer:** Reinforcement and reinforcers are the things that motivate your child to learn. In this intervention, we will consider access to your attention the reinforcer for your child. When your child communicates appropriately, that behavior will be reinforced with your attention.

3. **Prompt/Manual Guidance:** Prompts or manual guidance are what we will use to teach your child. We will go over this more in depth later in this training. For now, know that prompts and manual guidance are how we guide your child to respond correctly.

4. **Attention Function:** An attention function of problem behavior means that problem behavior is occurring consistently in order to access others' attention.

5. **Reversal:** A reversal is when we briefly stop reinforcing appropriate requests for attention by your child, and reinforce their problem behavior instead. We will discuss reversals at the end of this training. They are done to ensure that our intervention works.

For the purposes of this training, the actor playing the child will have certain target and non-target problem behaviors. They will also have highly preferred and moderately preferred items. Use what is listed here for this training.

TARGET Problem Behavior: Self biting

NON-TARGET Problem Behavior: Property destruction (Ripping paper, throwing things, hitting the table)

HIGHLY PREFERRED Item: Phone

MODERATELY PREFERRED Item: Book

Questions:

Let's Review: When first teaching your child, when will you prompt?

1. Five seconds after removing attention
2. Immediately (0 seconds) after removing attention
3. Ten seconds after removing attention
4. When the child engages in problem behavior

Fidelity Error 1:

What was wrong:

- The therapist provided _____ for target problem behavior

Instead, you should:

- _____ all problem behavior during FCT

- Hit _____ on the timer for target problem behavior

Fidelity Error 2:

What was wrong:

- The therapist _____ to the child correctly using their picture card

Instead, you should:

- Hit _____ on the timer to end the trial

- Give the child _____ as soon as they use their card

Fidelity Error 3:

What was wrong:

- The therapist hit _____ for _____ problem behavior

Instead, you should:
- Only hit lap for the first instance of _____ problem behavior

Fidelity Error 4:

What was wrong:

- The therapist forgot to place the child's _____ on the table. The child was not able to ask for attention.

Instead, you should:

- Make sure the _____ is always _____ and _____ to the child during FCT trials.

Fidelity Error 5:

What was wrong:

- The therapist did not remove a

  _____

Instead, you should:
- Remove _____ when conducting attention trials

Fidelity Error 6:

<u>*What was wrong:*</u>

- The therapist never removed _____ from the child. The child had no reason to ask for attention.

<u>*Instead, you should:*</u>

- Completely remove _____ when you start an attention trial.

Question 1: How does an FCT attention trial begin?
1. With a prompt
2. By removing attention
3. With 30 seconds of reinforcement
4. By giving attention every 10 seconds

Question 2: How do you respond to problem behavior in trials?
1. Hit lap and ignore problem behavior
2. Stop the problem behavior by redirecting
3. Stop the problem behavior by giving your child the reinforcer, attention
4. Ignore the first instance of problem behavior, but stop the trial if more problem behavior occurs

Question 3: When will an FCT trial end?
1. Once your child has requested and you've given them attention for 30 seconds
2. When problem behavior occurs
3. After 2 minutes
4. After 5 minutes