Evidence Based Practice Training:

Visual Supports (VS)

Adapted from Sam, A., & AFIRM Team. (2015). Visual Supports. Chapel Hill, NC: National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder, FPG Child Development Center, University of North Carolina. Retrieved from https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/visual-supports





What is CAPTAIN

The California Autism Professional Training And Information Network (CAPTAIN) is an interagency network developed to support the understanding and use of evidence based practices (EBPs) for individuals with Autism across the state of California.





What is CAPTAIN

Marin County SELPA in partnership with CAPTAIN, are members of the Statewide System of Support as the Special Education Content Lead for Autism

This project is funded by the California Department of Education and the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence.











Levels of Professional Development to Reach Implementation







Before We Begin...

Please complete the **Pre-Training Survey** sent to your email





Core Components Learning Objectives:

- Define EBPs for Autism
- Describe the EBP of Visual Supports (VS)
- Describe the various types/formats of VS
- Learn to use the "Visual Supports Implementation Brief" to set up, use and self-evaluate use of this EBP





What are Evidence Based Practices?



NCAEP definition of an EBP:

"Focused intervention practices that have evidence of efficacy in promoting positive outcomes for learners with ASD."

Steinbrenner, J. R., Hume, K., Odom, S. L., Morin, K. L., Nowell, S. W., Tomaszewski, B., Szendrey, S., McIntyre, N. S., Yücesoy-Özkan, S., & Savage, M. N. (2020). Evidence-based practices for children, youth, and young adults with Autism. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute, National Clearinghouse on Autism Evidence and Practice Review Team.





Evidence Based Practice Matrix (28 EBPs)

Table 3.7 Matrix of evidence-based practices, outcomes, and age categories

Evidence-Based		cader -acad	nic/ Iemic	Ac Se	daptiv	ve/ elp	In	alleng terfe ehav		Co	ognit	ive		ommu catio			Joint tenti			/lenta		٨	Moto	r		Play			Schoo adine		dete	Self- ermina	tion		Socia	ı	Voc	ationa
Practices See Table 3.1 to link abbreviations to EBPs	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years	15-22 years	0-5 years	6-14 years
ABI																																						
AAC																																						
BMI																																						
CBIS																																						
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TD																																						
VM																																						
VS																																						



www.captain.ca.gov



Selecting EBPs

Before beginning a new practice with a learner, it is important to follow four planning steps

- 1. Identify the behavior
- 2. Collect baseline data on the behavior
- 3. Establish an observable and measurable goal
- 4. Choose an EBP
 - Consider the child and family characteristics
 - Consider the teacher and team characteristics
 - Consider other available resources





Selecting an EBP Checklist

Autism Focused Intervention AFIRM Autism Focused Intervention Resources & Modules For more information, please visit: https://afirm.fpc.unc.edu/	AFIRM Resources & Modules	Selecting an EBP Checklist For more information, please visit: https://drim.fpg.unc.edu/	AFIRM Autism Focused Intervention Resources & Modules	For ma	Selecting an EBP C re information, please visit: https://efirm.fpg.c
Selecting an EBP Checklist AFIRM	CHECK ANNUAL GOAL FOR:		SELECT AN EBP:		
Learner's Name: Date/Time: Observer(s): Target Goal/Behavior/Skill (short):	Context (When/Antecedent) Target goal/behavior/skill (What/Biperform) Mastery (How/Criterion for learner)				
Directions: Complete this checklist to select an appropriate practice to use with the learner with ASD.	IDENTIFY CHARACTERISTICS, CLU	ES, AND RESOURCES:			
	Child and Family Characteristics		IF APPLICABLE, IDENTIF	Y ADDITIONALS EBPS TO	D BE USED WITH THE
IDENTIFY TARGET GOAL/BEHAVIOR/SKILL:	Student strengths:	Student challenges:	SELECTED EBP:		
			☐ Reinforcement (R+)	☐ Prompting (PP)	☐ Modeling (MD)
	Has worked before (home/school):	Has not worked before (home/school):	☐ Task Analysis (TA)	☐ Time Delay (TD)	☐ Visual Supports (VS)
			☐ Functional Behavior		П
COLLECT BASELINE DATA (OR USE SELECTING AN EBP DATA COLLECTION SHEET):	Teacher/Team Characteristics		Assessment (FBA)	ш	L
Date/Time Frequency/Duration Total	Knowledge level:	Successfully used EBPs:		'	'
Date/filme Prequency/Duration Total			ADDITIONAL NOTES:		
	Clues found in the IEP Goal				
	Goal domain:	Potential EBPs (Refer to the Domain Matrix):			
	Other Resources				
	Current student supports:	Available equipment:			
DEFINE AN OBSERVABLE AND MEASURABLE IEP GOAL:	Team members:	Additional learning experiences:			
Selecting an EBP		Selecting an EBP			
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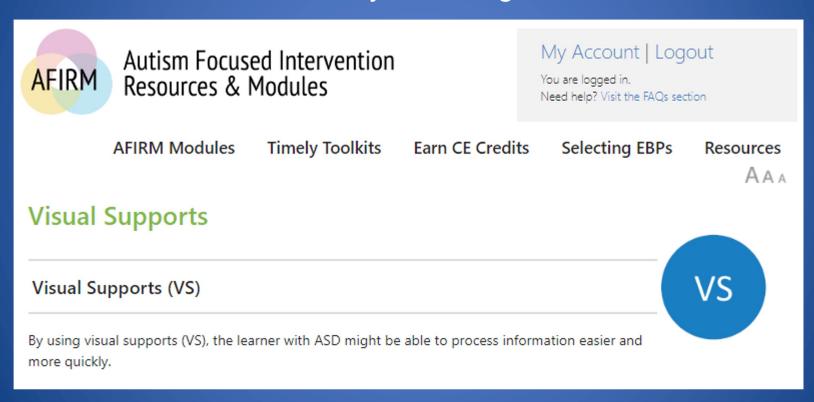




High Quality Training:

<u>Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules (AFIRM)</u>

Designed to help you learn the step-by-step process of planning for, using, and monitoring EBPs with learners with Autism from birth to 22 years of age



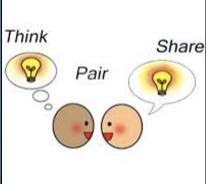




Think - Pair - Share

 Describe the visual information you use in daily life and the ways that it helps you.....

For example, while driving, grocery shopping, traveling, etc.







What are Visual Supports (VS)?

- Any tool presented visually that supports an individual as he or she moves through the day
- Might include written words, objects within the environment, arrangement of the environment or visual boundaries, schedules, maps, labels, organization systems, timelines, and scripts





Visual Supports

Visual Supports include:

- Visual/Physical Boundaries and Structure
- Visual/Picture/Written Cues
 - Includes Touchpoints
- Visual Work Systems
- Scripting
- Visual Schedules





Settings

Used effectively in:

- Home settings
- Community settings
- Classroom settings

Visual Supports are intended to be used as one component of comprehensive programming for individuals with Autism





Name of EBP

Visual Supports (VS)

Definition of EBP

Visual supports (VS) are concrete cues that provide information about an activity, routine, or expectation and/or support skill demonstration. Visual supports are often combined with other practices such as prompting and reinforcement, and they are also embedded in many more complex or packaged interventions. Some examples of common visual supports are visual schedules, activity schedules, work systems, graphic organizers, visual cues, and scripts.

(Steinbrenner, 2

				Age Ra	inges		
Outcome Area	s	0-2 Toddlers	3-5 Preschoolers	6-11 Elementary School	12-14 Middle School	15-18 High School	19-22 Young Adults
	Communication		✓	✓	/		
	Social		✓	✓	✓	/	/
	Joint attention		✓	✓			
	Play		✓	✓	✓		✓
	Cognitive		/	✓			
	School readiness		/	/	/		/
	Academic/ Pre-academic		✓	✓	✓	1	1
	Adaptive/ self-help		1	✓	1	1	1
(A)	Challenging/ Interfering behavior		✓	1	1		
@: <u></u>	Vocational			✓			
	Motor	✓		✓			
(F)3	Mental health						
(4.5) A	Self- determination						





Visual/Physical Boundaries and Structure

 Visual/Physical Boundaries and Structure are a specific type of visual support that use furniture arrangement, labeling, and color coding to make the use of a particular space more obvious and clear







Who Needs Physical/Visual Structure?

- Is there a safety concern?
- Does the learner have difficulty staying in one place?
- Does the learner know what s/he is to be working on in an area?
- Does the learner ever leave a location because of frustration?
- Does the learner ever have difficulty with entering others' work space and or making use of others' work or personal materials?

If yes to any of these, consider using Physical/Visual Structure...





Example: Structure in the Environment



Areas are clearly defined with barriers, signs and specific materials to clarify expectations



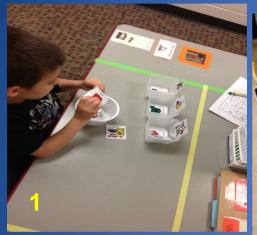








What types of visual boundaries do you see?









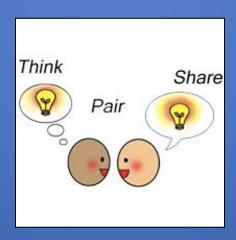




Think - Pair - Share

 Do you have an example of physical structure in your classroom?

Can you think of things you may want to add?







Visual Cues

- Help Identify or Clarify Expected Behaviors
 - Rules
 - Sequences
 - Additional visual information that clarifies the expectations (timers, highlighting, etc)





Who Needs Visual Cues?

- Does the activity, event, or concept cause anxiety or frustration for the learner?
- Is a great deal of adult support required for the learner to be successful with the activity, event, or concept?
- Is the activity, event, or concept difficult for the learner to understand when only verbal information is provided?

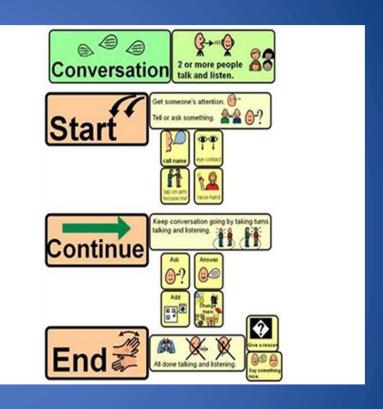
If yes to any of these questions, it is likely that the learner would benefit from a visual support





Visual Step-By-Step Instructions





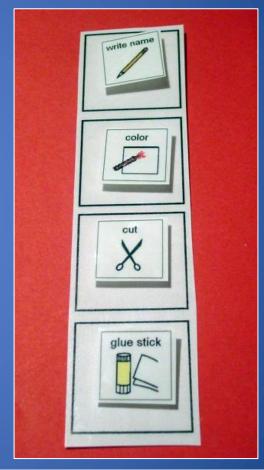








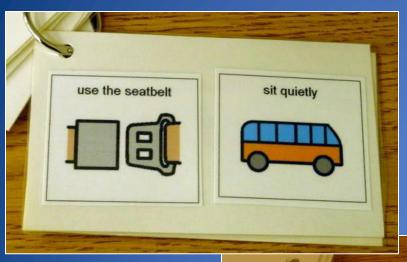
Visual sequence and organization of steps within activities







Visual Cues Help Identify or Clarify Expected Behaviors







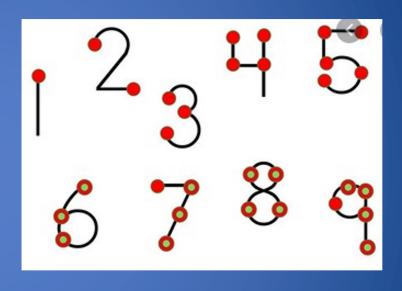






Touchpoints

- A type of Visual Cue
- Can also be considered a prompt because the goal is to fade







Let's Watch Some Examples

AFIRM

Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules

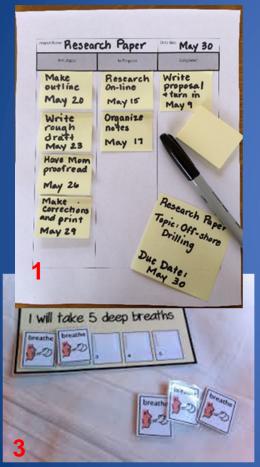
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What types of Visual Cues do you see?











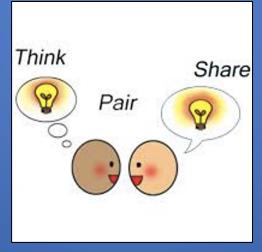


Think - Pair - Share

 Can you think of visual cue you are already using in your classroom?

Can you identify things you may want to

add or try?







Work Systems

Visually Answer 4 Questions:

- 1. What Work?
- 2. How Much Work?
- 3. When Is It Finished?
- 4. What's Next?



Types of Work Systems: Left to Right







Types of Work Systems: Matching



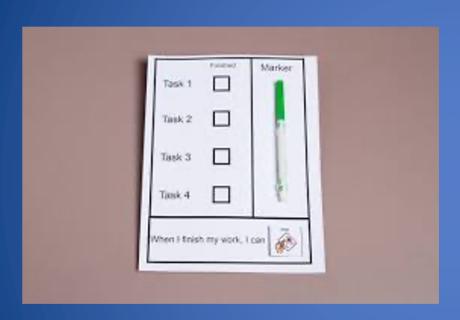


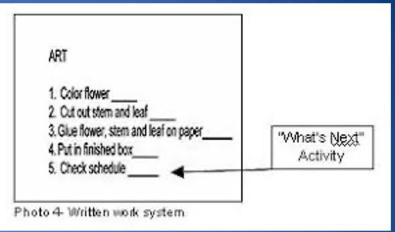






Types of Work Systems: Check Off





Put	hores	clothe		1
Sant	DUDE			1
Balan	ice ch	eckhoo		T
aun	dry			C
C	heck	scheo	lule	





Scripting:

- Focused intervention used to help initiate and sustain a conversation or interaction
- A set of comments and/or questions often presented in writing, but can also include picture cues or direct verbal prompts





Script-specific Materials

Script-specific materials will vary based on the type of script use, but might include one or more of the following:

- Paper handouts of scripts
- Cue card(s) with all or parts of the script
- Picture cues to add to a written script as needed



Click to enlarge.

- Electronic devices programmed with the script
- Labels with each scripted comment placed on the individual objects about which the learner will comment





Example of a Script for Learner and Peer

Hannah is a high school student. Her target behavior is to request help when working in a group with peers. Her teacher developed the following script for Hannah and a peer to use during group activities when Hannah appears to be having a difficult time.

- Peer: Hannah, do you need help?
- · Hannah: Yes, I need help.
- Peer: What do you need help with?
- Hannah: I don't understand this part. (Point to difficult problem)
- Peer (select one response):
 - I can help you.
 - Let's ask Mr. Cruz to help us.







Let's Watch Some Examples

AFIRM Autism Focused Intervented Resources and Modules Autism Focused Intervention



https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/scripting/lesson-1-basics-sc/how-sc-beingused





To Learn How to Implement the EBP: Scripting

AFIRM Online Learning Module

https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/scripting

	Scripting (SC)Implementation Checklist
To find out	Observation 1 2 3 4
more information	Step 1: Planning
about	1.1 Determine the type and length of the script
	1.2 Develop the script
☐ Establishing a goal or outcome	1.3 Identify additional evidence-based practices
that clearly states when the	1.4 Gather and organize supporting materials
behavior will occur, what the	1.5 Teach the learner prerequisite skills
target skill is, and how the team will	1.6 Identify and train communication partners as appropriate
know when the skill is mastered.	Step 2: Using
□ Identifying	2.1 Teach script to learner
evidence-based practices Refer to the Selecting EBPs' section on the website alimiting uncedu	2.2 Use script with identified communication partners
	2.3 Fade prompts, if any, needed to read the script
	2.4 Fade script
	2.5 Test for generalization and revisit script as needed
	Step 3: Monitoring
	3.1 Collect data on target behaviors
	3.2 Determine if the script needs to be retaught or faded based on collected data.
	3.3 Determine next steps based on learner progress
AFIRM Aution Facused Intervention Resources and Modules	





Visual Schedules Should:

- Be visual and easily understood by the target student
- Indicate what activities will occur and in what sequence
- Be arranged left to right or top to bottom or provided by the teacher one at a time (Teacher as Schedule)
- Have a way to indicate that each activity is finished





Using a Whole Class Schedule

- Stationary in the classroom
- States specific order of activities
- Actively used by teacher to indicate completion and transition to new activities
- A consistent signal should be used to indicate change in activities or change to schedule





Whole Class Schedule

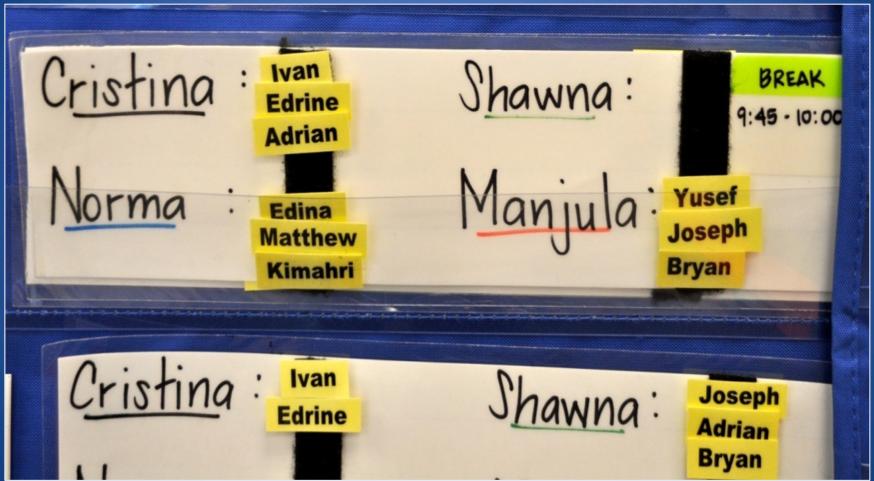








All Staff Have Assignments







Types of Individual Schedules

Stationary vs. Portable

One At a Time vs. Part Day vs. Full Day

Object vs. Photo vs. Icon vs. Words



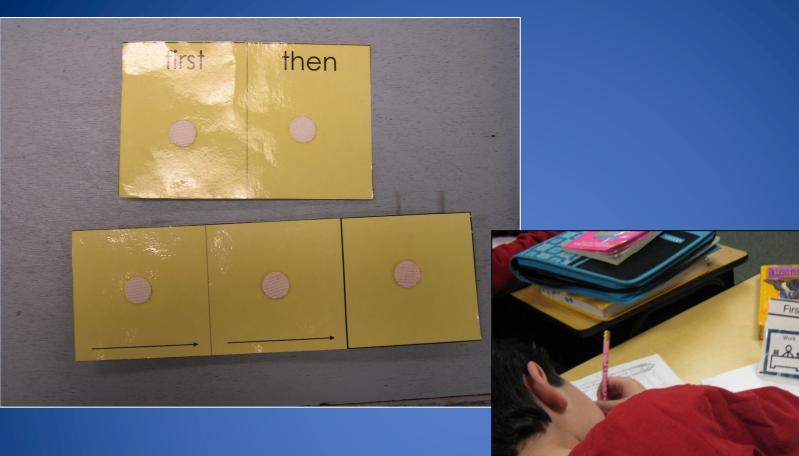


First - Then A Visual Schedule System

- Basic visual system
- Identifies the order of activities
- May use in a variety of settings at several levels
- Great tool for helping with transitions
- Helpful to show a preferred activity is following a non-preferred activity
- A timer can be attached to the system if needed













Let's Watch An Example

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Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules





Individual Student Schedules

- Stationary: Student goes to schedule
 - Must have a transition icon or item to indicate to student to go to check schedule
- Portable: Student carries the schedule
 - Must have a way to check off or remove items that are completed





Individual Student Schedules

- Teaches important self-management skill
- Allows student to see how activities apply INDIVIDUALLY, not just the group







Portable Object Schedule

Most concrete type of visual schedule







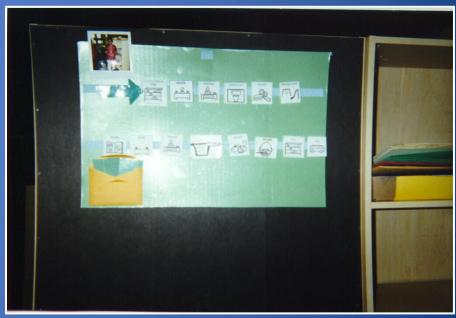
Stationary Object Schedule



Stationary Part-Day Icon Schedule

Stationary Full-Day Icon Schedule









Portable Icon Word Schedules

Ashlev's Daily A Finished 1:1 with Chrissy Sensory Break Reading 1:1 with Chrissy Free Choice Table Work

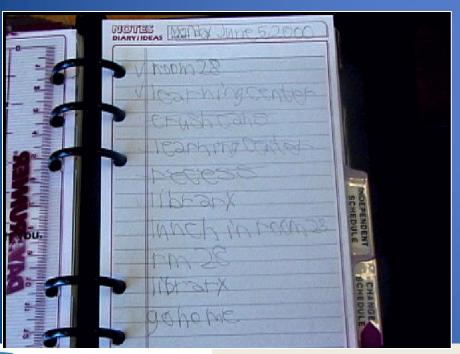
Portable Activity Schedule

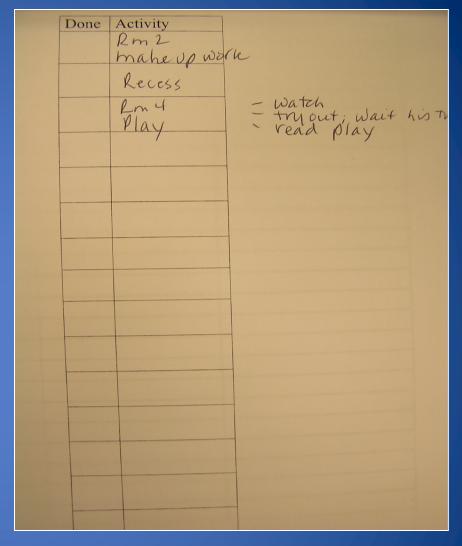






Portable: Written Word

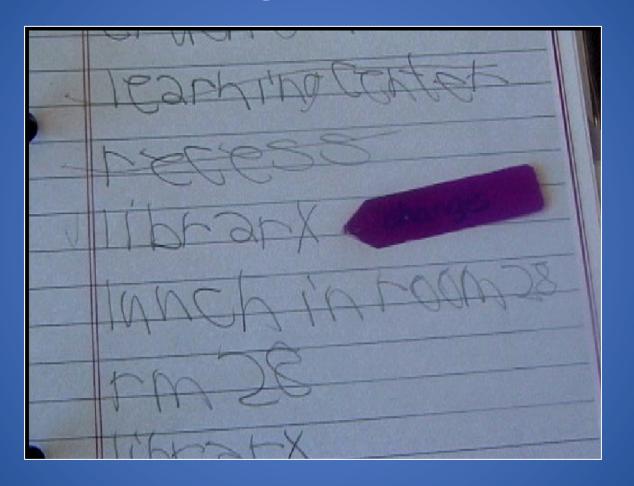








"Change" Arrows







Icon Schedule with

Reading 1. Read pages 1-5 in the book Five Silly Fisherman 2. Write 3 new reading words in your reading journal 8 # B 16 00 00





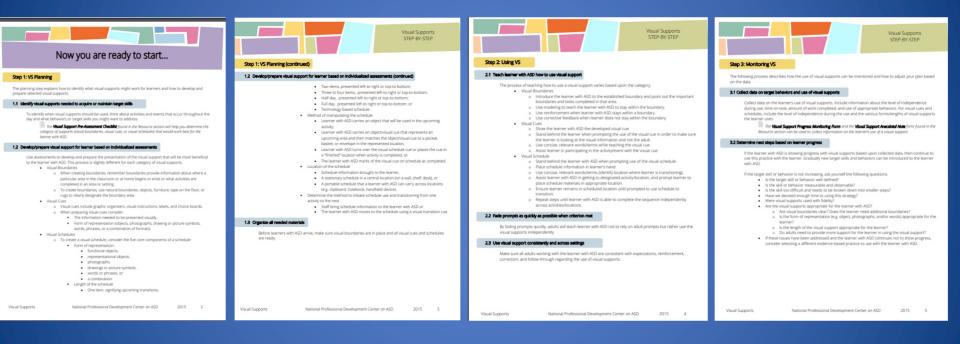
Which Type of Visual Support To Use:

- Consider the individuals comprehension level, attention span, and sequencing abilities to select the appropriate schedule length and presentation format
- Use visual supports that will have
 MEANING to the student to address the area(s) of need identified





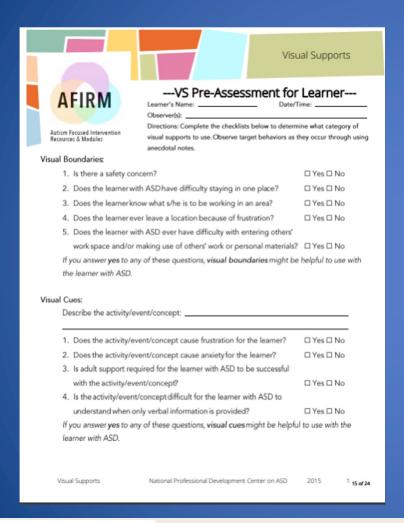
Use the AFIRM Planning Forms







Use the AFIRM Visual Supports Pre-Assessment Form



		Visual Supports
Visual S	chedules:	
		arner struggle with moving from one area to the next? □ Yes □ No
		arner forget whats/he is asked to do next? □ Yes □ No
		amer with ASD exhibit disruptive/inappropriate behavior
	when trans	itioning?
lf	you answery	res to any of these questions, visual schedules might be helpful to use with
th	e leamer wit	h ASD.
Anecdo	tal Notes:	
Date	Observer Initials	Target Skill/Behavior, Comments, and Plans for Next Steps
Date	Observer	Target Skill/Behavior, Comments, and Plans for Next Steps
	Initials	
		For more
		information visit: www.afirm.fpg.unc.edu





What types of Visual Schedules

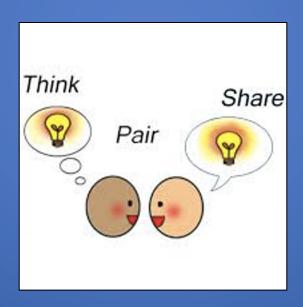






Think - Pair - Share

 What Type(s) of Visual Supports(s) should you use with your student(s)?







Teaching Student to Use a Visual Support

- Develop a Task Analysis (TA) of the steps for use
- Take baseline data
- Determine the prompt hierarchy needed to teach the skill
- Teach and take data
- Evaluate data to systematically fade prompts as independence is achieved





Use the AFIRM Visual Supports Progress Monitoring Form

			Visual	Supports
AFIRM Autism Focused Intervention	Learner's Name: Observer(s):	rogress Mo	_ Date/Time	
Resources & Modules Steps/Tasks:			-	ore information visit: w.afrm.fpg.unc.edu
Steps/Tasks			Date	
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
Amount of time learner was on-tas (circle one)	koroff-task			
I = Independent; IS = Indep	endent with visual sup	port; PS = Prompt wit	h visual support; 0 =	error or issue
Select Visual Representatio	n and Presentation	n:		
If applicable, check the	e form of represent	ation and length	of presentation of	f the visual cue or
visual schedule.				
Form of Repre	sentation	Leng	th of Presentation	on
□ Object	cts		☐ One item	
☐ Photo	graphs		□ Two items	
☐ Drawi	ing or picture symb	ols	☐ 3-4 items	
□ Word	s		☐ Half-day or !	5-7 items
☐ Phras	es		☐ Full day or 8	3+ items
□ Comb	oination:			
Notes:				
Visual Supports	National Professional D	evelopment Center o	on ASD 2015	14 of 24





Let's Watch An Example

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Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules







Practice with Feedback



- Create a TA for a student you would like to implement a Visual Schedule
- Identify the prompts and prompt hierarchy you will use
- Describe the steps and adapt your TA and prompt hierarchy based on the feedback







This practice guide outlines how to plan for, use, and monitor the visual supports practice.

Keep in mind that the three categories of visual supports are:

- Visual boundaries
- Visual cues

Visual schedules

While each category is slightly different, the practice guide is applicable to all. When unique features are tied to a specific category, we will identify them through examples or cautions.



AFIRM

Autism Focused Intervention Resources & Modules

Visual Supports (VS)
---Step-by-Step Guide---

BEFORE YOU START...

Each of the following points is important to address so that you can be sure the selected EBP is likely to address the learning needs of your student.

Have you found out more information about. . .?

- Established a goal or outcome that clearly states when the behavior will occur, what the target skill is, and how the team will know when the skill is mastered...
- D Identifying evidence-based practices...

If the answer to any of these is "no," review the process of how to select an EBP.

For more information visit:

www.afirm.fpg.unc.edu

Use the AFIRM Implementation Brief

Use the step by step practice guide and the other AFIRM resources to plan how you will use Visual Supports!

Ask for implementation coaching from a CAPTAIN Cadre to build your skills.





Visual Supports (VS)

---Implementation Checklist---

Before you start:

Have you...

- Identified the behavior?
- Collected baseline data through direct observation?
- Established a goal or outcome that clearly states when the behavior will occur, what the target skill is, and how the team will know when the skill is mastered.

If the answer to any of these is "no", refer to the "Selecting EBPs" section on the website.

Observation	1	2	3	4
Date	Γ	Т	Г	Γ
Observer's Initials	\vdash	+	\vdash	H
Step 1: Planning				
1.1 Identify visual supports needed to acquire or maintain target skills	Т	Т	Г	Γ
1.2 Develop/prepare visual support for learner based on individualized assessments	T	T		Ī
1.3 Organize all needed materials	Т	Т	Г	Γ
Step 2: Using				
2.1 Teach learner how to use visual support	Τ	Г	Г	ſ
- Boundaries:				_
☐ Introduce boundary to learner				
☐ Use modeling to teach learner to stay within boundary				L
 Use reinforcement to encourage learner to stay within boundary 	\perp			L
 Use corrective feedback when learner does not stay within boundary 	\perp			L
- Cues:				
☐ Show learner visual cue	Т			Γ
 Stand behind learner when prompting use of visual cue 	т	Т	П	Γ
☐ Use concise, relevant words/terms while teaching visual cue	\top	-		Г
□ Assist learner in participating in activity/event with visual cue	\top	-	\vdash	r
- Schedules	_	_		_
□ Stand behind learner when prompting use of visual schedule	Т	Т		Г
Place schedule information in learner's hand	+	-	-	H
☐ Use concise, relevant words/terms	+		\vdash	r
Assist learner in getting to designated activity/location, and prompt	+	+		۲
Ensure learner remains in scheduled location until prompted to use	+			۲
Repeat steps until learner is able to complete the sequence	+	+		H
independently across activities/locations	+	-		H
2.3 Use visual supports consistently and across settings	\perp	L	L	L
Step 3: Monitoring				
3.1 Collect data on target behaviors and use of visual supports (independence	Τ	Т		Γ
during use and progress through forms/types of supports)				L
3.2 Determine next steps based on learner progress				ſ
3-E sectioning next steps based on learner progress	1	1		ı

Make Certain to
Use the
Visual Supports
Implementation
Checklist

AFIRM Action Focused Intervention Resources and Modules

Visual Supports

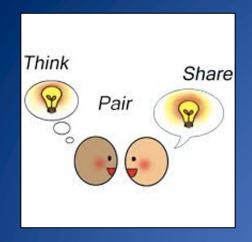
National Professional Development Center on ASD

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1 12 of 24







My Takeaways

- 1. What are 4 things you remember from today's training?
- 1. What are 2 things you see yourself doing?
- 1. What is the 1 thing you can implement tomorrow?





After the Training...

Please complete the **Post Training Survey** that will be sent to your email









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CAPTAIN CHART



CAPTAIN

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