Special Education

April 8, 2014 Concordia University

PL 94-142

- Passed in 1975-originally named Education of all Handicapped Children Act
- # Now called IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
- # Under IDEA, schools must offer FAPE (Free and Appropriate Education) to all children with disabilities in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)

13 Disabilities Under IDEA

- *Other Health Impaired (OHI)
- *Speech/Language Impairment (SLI)
- *Developmental Delay (DD
- *Emotional and Behavior Disorder (EBD)
- *Specific Learning Disability (SLD)
- *Autism

- *Visual Impairment (VI)
- *Hearing Impaired (HI)
- *Deaf-Blind
- *Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)
- *Mental Handicap (MH)
- *Multiple Handicaps (MH)
- *Orthopedic Impairment (OI)

Challenges

- # A different teacher
- # A different set of expectations
- # Changing expectations
- # Noise
- # Anxiety of something different
- # Different activity-possibly not preferred

- # Lack of engagement
- # Rigid responses from teachers
- # Lack of relationship with a teacher
- # Little or no motivation to go to or stay in class
- # Punitive responses to behavior

Implications for Inclusion

- # All children have the right to come to specials and should be viewed as learners
- # All students, regardless of disability, could potentially be in your class
- # Ethical and legal requirements to make appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities
 - # Fair vs. Equal
 - # Accommodations for a variety of disabilities

What can you expect?

- # A diverse group of students
 - # Think about cultural profiency
- # A variety of behaviors
- # The need to individualize some activities to make some student successful
- # ADHD, Autism, Behavior Disorders, Depression, Anxiety (and many more)-prevalent in schools across ages
- # De-escalation: a way to calm kids down and not make them more upset
 - # Humor, distraction, time, choices, breaks, physical break, drink, errand, change the context

What can you do?

- # Build positive relationships with students
- # Create opportunities for <u>ALL</u> students to be engaged
- # Be preventative when thinking about potential behavior problems
- # Set explicit, positive expectations (PBIS)
 - # Hold all kids accountable to your set expectations
 - # Requires established trust and respect
- # Reinforce appropriate behavior (avoid punishment)

Building Positive Relationships

- # Effective strategy for all students
- # Good relationships make positive class climate
- # Kids put forth more effort when there is a relationship
- # Allow kids to share their experiences
- # Attempt to understand what makes each student unique
- # Work to develop connections with students
- # Have a positive attitude

Relationships (Cont.)

- # Be genuine/authentic with kids
 - # Demonstrate care, compassion, empathy
- # Constructively correct/redirect students
- # Relationships provide safety and security for students
- # Treat students with respect (and you will then get respect)
- # Reduce/prevent frustrations/stress

Engagement

- # Benefits
 - # Increases attention and focus
 - # Decrease behavior problems
 - # Increased student learning



- # Strategies
 - # Use inclusive teaching strategies and activities
 - # Active learning
 - **#** Technology
 - # Teach to all modes of learning
 - # Empower students to take control of their learning
 - # Make content relevant
 - **# Have FUN ◎**

Preventative Strategies

- # Be Prepared
- **# Use Positive Approaches**
- # Anticipate Problem Behavior
- # Catch Problems Early
- # Correct Problem Behavior Appropriately
- # See Handout
 - # Effective Interventions from the Adult and Adult Behaviors that Can Escalate a Crisis

PBIS

- # Positive Behavior Intervention Support
- # Research based practice for increasing positive behavior
- # School wide program
 - # Elements can easily be implemented in a classroom
- # Preventative vs. Reactive
- # Teach and reinforce appropriate behaviors

Bad Social Skills Are Not An Opportunity To Punish But An Opportunity To Teach

Maag 2012

Expectations

- **# NECESSITY**
- # Be reasonable
- # Keep them short, explicit and positive
 - # "Raise hand to talk" rather than "Don't blurt out"
- # Reward appropriate behavior and those students following the expectations
- # Must teach and reinforce

Classroom Routines

- **# NECESSITY**
- # If you want them to do it, **teach** it!
- # Higher structure=higher success
- # Front end work pays off all year!
- # Continue to review, re-teach, and reinforce all year
- # Use visuals

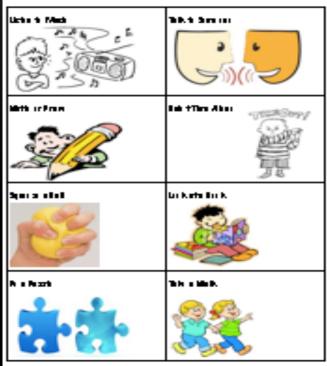
Example Visuals





Example Visuals

I Can Calm Down By:



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When the 🖲 goes off...

- ✓ Put work/materials away
- ✓ Put up sticker, if job is done or you worked the entire time
- ✓ Look at the schedule-find next job
- ✓ Move to next job immediately

4:1 Positive/ Negative Ratio and Behavior Specific Praise

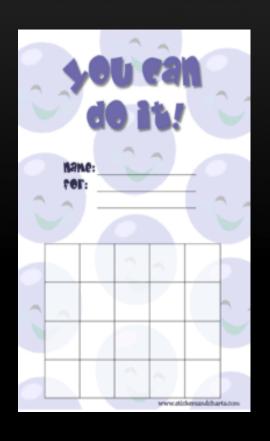
"Good job" vs. "Sally, I like how you are sitting quietly."

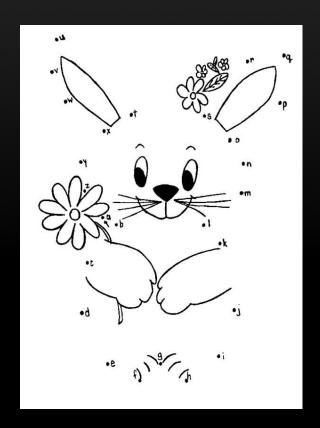
Reinforcement Ideas

- # Point systems
- **#** Sticker charts
- # Chart moves (connect the dots)
- # Games (ex. Bingo)
- # Items in a jar/container
- # Tickets



Reinforcement Examples







Questions

- # Please feel free to email me at anytime with any questions.
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