

Goal- Deliver Happiness

- Health, Safety and Sense of Security
- Empower – Promote Dignity/ Self Esteem/ Affirmation
- Holistic Development - Discover and Develop their Talent
- Journey toward independence
- Provide support
- Improve social / friendship, communication, behavior

What do People say about our Children

- They are Aliens from Another Planet
- They Don't Fit In, A Puzzle Piece
- They Can't Adapt
- They Can't Understand
- Common problems: Communication, Social, Behavior
- They Shutdown or Meltdown

Understand Our Children's Challenges

Deficits

- * Communication – lack of response
- * Behavior to communicate
- * Need Structure and Schedules
- * Sensory challenges
 - Social Skills - poor eye contact
 - Physical contact
 - Hearing (cover ears)
 - Food (picky eater)

Reasons

- don't understand language
- no other communication avail.
- fear of the unknown
- over or under sensitivity of 5 senses
- fear & sensory
- sensory
- sensory
- sensory (taste & feel & smell)

All behaviors serve a purpose

- Serve a purpose
- Communicate a message
- Get attention
- Access to escape ---E.g: You tell the kid "Go clean up" and kid runs away because he or she doesn't want to do it.
- Access to automatic reinforcement -- E.g: Child flaps or spin in order to calm himself / herself.
- Access to things they like -- E.g: Child hits mom because s/he wants the toy mom is holding.
- Sensory input

How to Help Our Children

- LOVE them and Provide a Safe & Comfortable Environment
- Put Your Own Agenda Aside
- No 1 Magic Pill or Formula
- No Professional Can Replace You – You Spend the most time with them
- Understand Their Differences
- Improve in Baby Steps – with Patience

Why Negative Behavior Happens?

Step 1: Determine the Cause

- Physical issues - Sick?
- Sensory Overload?
- Change in Structure, Schedule, Routine? Transition?
- Try to communicate a message through behavior?
- Too Hard/Difficult?
- Scared, Worried, Anxiety?
- No motivation? Bored?
- Attention Seeking?
- Need entertainment?

Step 2: Use Good Strategies

- *Prevention is the Key to stop Negative Behavior*
- **Motivation (use effective reward system)**
- **Schedule & Structure**
- Know the kid's strength & deficits, fear, what makes s/he happy
- Look out for sensory triggers
- Reinforce their abilities and talent – **90% Reinforcement**
- Focus on building positive behaviors
- Ignore self stimulatory behavior, inappropriate behaviors and redirect to structured activity
- Team work-consistency among family, teachers, volunteers

Step 3: Effective Tools

- Visual cue
- Paired verbal with visual-- first, we will do....., then,...,then, then you will have a break for xxx minutes.
- By pictures or Icons... / structure routine
- Give limited choices to answer
- Give them the work schedules / clear structure
- Correct undesirable behaviors with incompatible behaviors
- Set each child for success-breaking a skill into baby steps-rewards
- Teaching one sub-skill at a time until mastery
- Anticipate stressors and sensory triggers in the environment

Step 4: Establish a behavioral plan?

- Use rules and directions for the child – auditory, visual, repeat
- Immediate positive reinforcement – applaud their success
- Contagious Emotions – happy, excited, enthusiastic
- Engage the student in positive activity – keep them busy
- Be consistent across all teachers and family members
- When bad behavior happens-keep calm demeanor, firm voice
- Be ready to modify & adapt on the spot but pick your battles
- Use Common Sense and Prioritize
- Check if Strategies & Tools were Properly Engaged