Evidence-based Practices for Children and Youth with Autism in School Settings

Samuel L. Odom
Frank Porter Graham Child Development Institute
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and
San Diego State University

Questions Answered In This Presentation

- What is autism?
- How do we measure program quality?
- What are the features of an effective school-based model?
- How do we chose goals for children and youth with autism?
- What are the EBPs for programs for children and youth with autism
- How do we select EBPs that support the goals for children and youth with autism?



View This Presentation Through a Cultural Lens



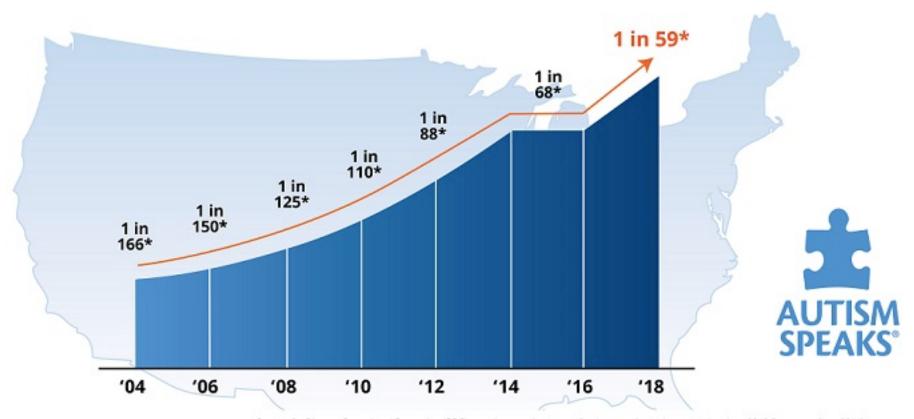
- All of these practices developed in the United States
- Adaptations require more than a language translation
- International adaptations
 - Sweden
 - China

Using a Common Language: What do we mean by Autism?

- DSM 5 -- Autism Spectrum Disorder and ICD-10—Autistic Disorder
 - Social communication
 - Restrictive and repetitive behavior
 - Onset before three years of age
- Mostly but not all boys (5:1)
- Associated difficulties
 - Social anxiety
 - Depression
 - Seizures



Estimated Autism Prevalence 2018



^{*} Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) prevalence estimates are for 4 years prior to the report date (e.g. 2018 figures are from 2014)

So What Does ASD Look Like Early On

 http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=QMy_ JoOlqoQI

Red flags of autism in infants

Impairment in Social Interaction

- Lack of appropriate eye gaze
- Lack of warm, joyful expressions
- Lack of sharing interest or enjoyment
- Lack of response to name

Impairment in Communication

- Lack of showing gestures
- Lack of coordination of nonverbal communication
- Unusual prosody (little variation in pitch, odd intonation, irregular rhythm, unusual voice quality)

Repetitive Behaviors and Restricted Interests

- Repetitive movements with objects
- Repetitive movements or posturing of body, arms, hands, fingers



Preschool Children

- Limited communication
- Toilet training
- Limited symbolic play
- Avoid social interactions, especially with peer
- Stereotypic and repetitive behavior
- Sometimes sleep issues

School-Age Children

- Social skills
 - Initiating and responding
 - Social routines
- Emotional and Self Organization
 - Awareness of feeling/emotions
 - Strategies for dealing with anxiety
- Communication
 - Critical importance of establishing a communication system
- Personal-adaptive behavior
 - Self care skills

High School and Adolescence

- More complex organizational and social environment
- Mental health issues
 - Social anxiety
 - Depression
- Puberty and sexuality
- Transition



HOME ABOUT NPDC NEWS

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES

NPDC MODEL

RESOURCES

TESELA



Since 2007, the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder (NPDC) has worked to develop free professional resources for teachers, therapists, and technical assistance providers who work with individuals with ASD. Resources include detailed information on how to plan, implement, and monitor specific evidence-based practices.

NPDC NEWS & UPDATES

Advances for Autism Challenge

READ MORE

More

AFIRM



Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules

Sign Up for an AFIRM Account



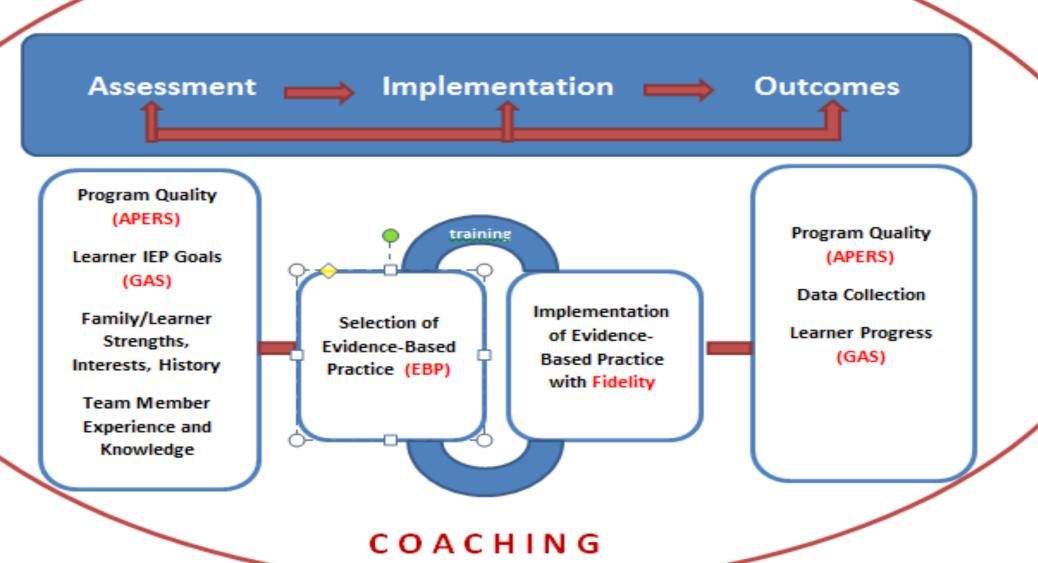
Follow AFIRM on Facebook

NCAEP



NCAEP is updating the NPDC systematic review on evidence-based practices from

NPDC Model



Essential Foundational Feature: Forming and A-Team

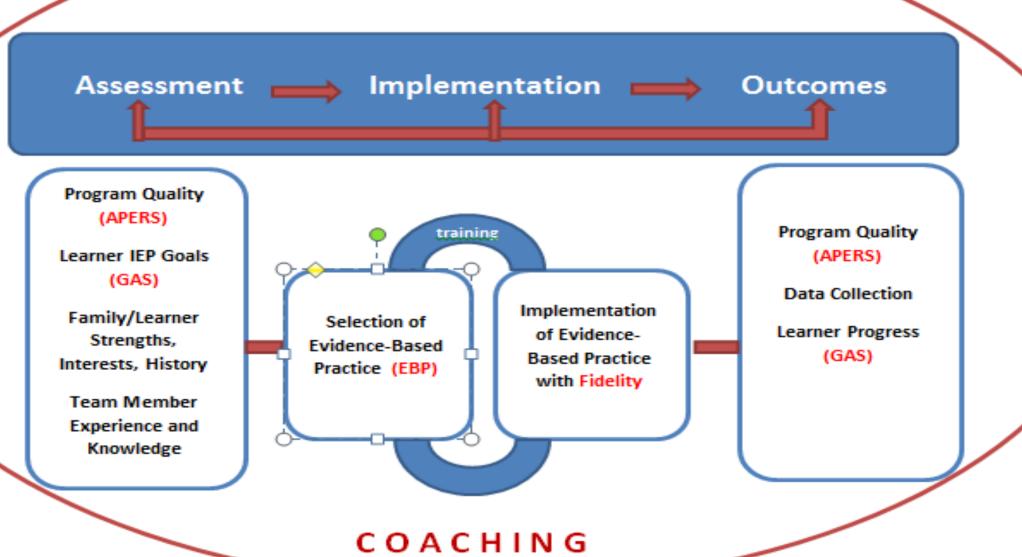
- Special Education Teacher
- General EducationTeacher
- Speech Pathologist
- School Psychologist
- Administrator (Principal, Assistant Principal)



What Can We Accomplish Through Teamwork

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K2v895MJWyY

NPDC Model

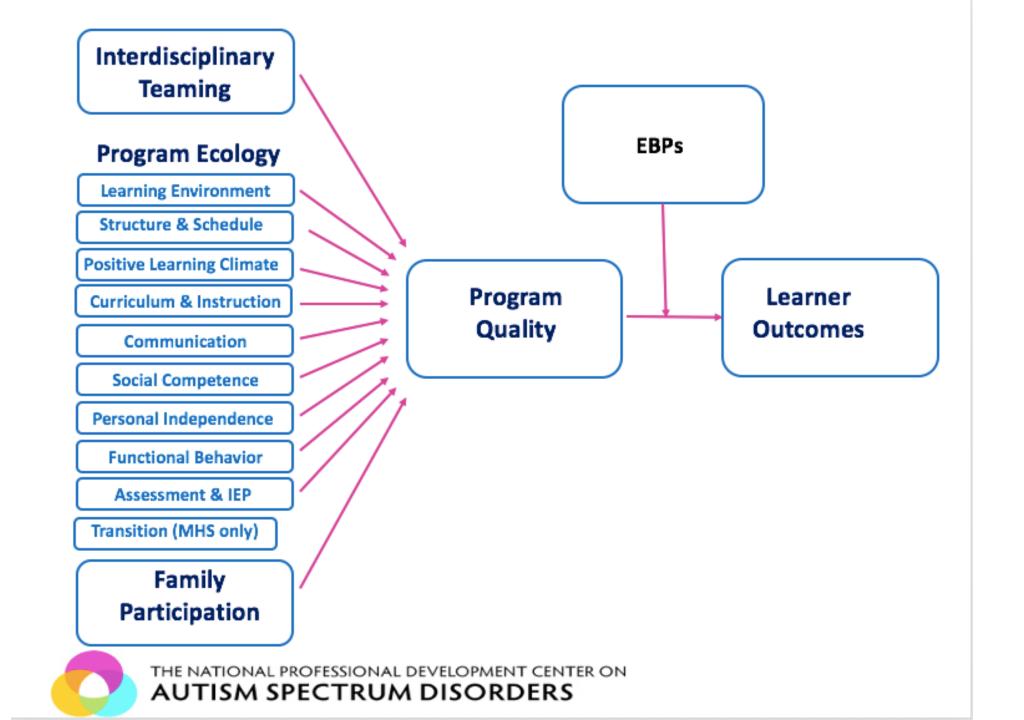


Assessment

- Assessment of the program environment
- Assessment of the child
- Development of goals from the assessment information

Preparing the Context: Building a Foundation of Quality





Autism Program Environment Rating Scale APERS

Autism Program Environment Rating Scale: What is it?

- Two versions: Preschool/Elementary and Middle/High School
- APERS-PE: 59 items across 10 domains/subdomains
- Administered by research staff at two time points: Early fall and late spring.
- Yields information that identifies program strengths and areas in need of improvement; measure of change in program quality



APERS Data Collection

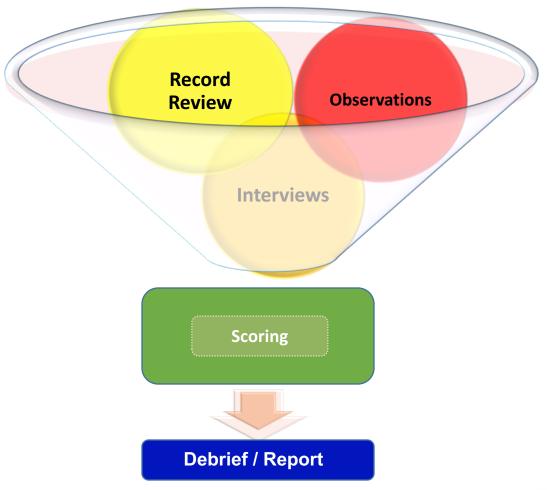
Observation – 6 hours (variety of settings at school)

Interviews – approx. 7; parents, teachers/team members, administration

Record Review- 3 target students, different program types and ages



Autism Program Environment Rating Scale



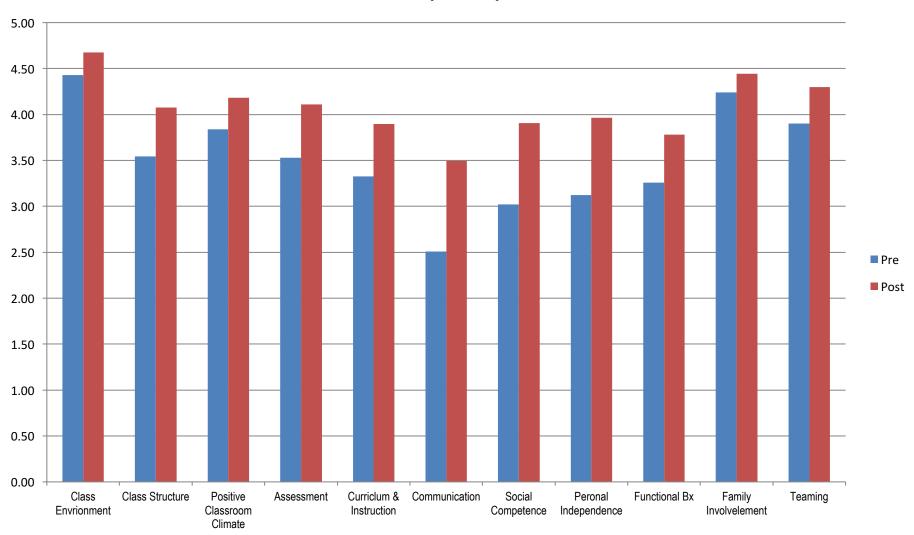


APERS Sample Item

□ Team members consistently over-☑ When needed, key team member uses a ☐ When needed team members use a clear prompt students during instruction. clear prompting hierarchy during prompting hierarchy during instruction (e.g., instruction (e.g., less intensive prompts □ Team members consistently underless intensive prompts, graduated guidance, followed by increased support as prompt or use no prompts during simultaneous instruction), needed). instruction. □ When needed, team members use a variety of □ When needed, key team member uses a prompts to meet individual student needs. ☐ When team members use prompts variety of prompts during instruction to only one form is used with students meet individual student needs (e.g., (e.g., physical, verbal, gestural). physical, verbal, gestural).



Mean APERS Subdomain Scores: Preschool/Elementary Version (n = 22)



How do we use the results?

- Share the results as a profile of the school program with A team
- Discuss and identify recommendations for improvement
- Help identify resources/training for improvement
- Provide technical assistance and coaching to team and teachers



To Use In Your Program: APERS Self-Assessment

- Self-assessment design to give formative feedback to improve your program
- Read over items completely before rating
- Complete self-assessment as a team
- Come to consensus on items where there is disagreement
- Use self-assessment to develop an action plan

Elements of a High Quality Classroom: Learning Environment

- Distribution of team members across the classroom/setting
- Students access personal space and materials
- Physical structure or boundaries



Elements of a High Quality Classroom: Learning Environment

- Written or visual schedules
- Students prepared for
 - Transitions
 - Changes in routines
 - Unstructured periods of time (e.g., what to do while waiting in lunch line)





Elements of a High Quality Classroom: Positive Learning Climate

- Engage students in positive, respectful, and warm interactions
- Consistently acknowledges students' efforts in an individualized way



Elements of a High Quality Classroom: Assessment

- Family members actively involved in child assessment
- Data-based instruction drives instructional planning.
- Comprehensive assessments for transition



Elements of a High Quality Classroom: Curriculum and Instruction

- Instruction directly targets IEP goals.
- Instruction capitalizes on students' strengths and interests.
- Activities an appropriate length
- Students are positioned to maximize focus on task or person



Elements of a High Quality Classroom:

Communication

Opportunities to communicate with multiple partners

 Instructional strategies promote student communication development

 Communication systems serve multiple functions (e.g., commenting,) and/or forms (e.g., gesture, verbal)



Elements of a High Quality Classroom: Social Competence

- Activities encourage social interaction with peers and adults
- Peer social networks are part of the school's core curriculum
- Multiple neurotypical peers serve as peer buddies



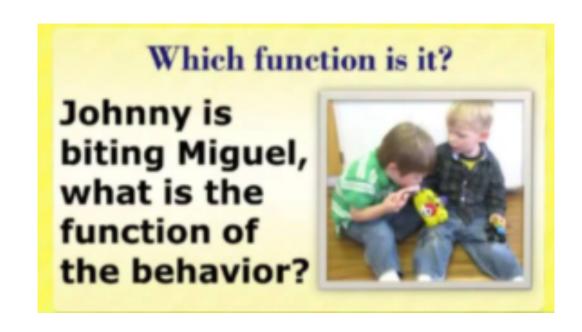
Elements of a High Quality Classroom: Independence

- Multiple strategies promote students' personal independence (e.g., picture schedules)
- Self-management skills (e.g., recognize their behavior by labeling it, evaluate how they performed, keeping track of assignments)



Elements of a High Quality Classroom: Functional Behavior

- Functional Behavior Assessment
- Team members develop and consistently implement a comprehensive intervention plan



Elements of a High Quality Classroom: Family Involvement

- Regular communication with family members
- Provide information that is important and individualized for families

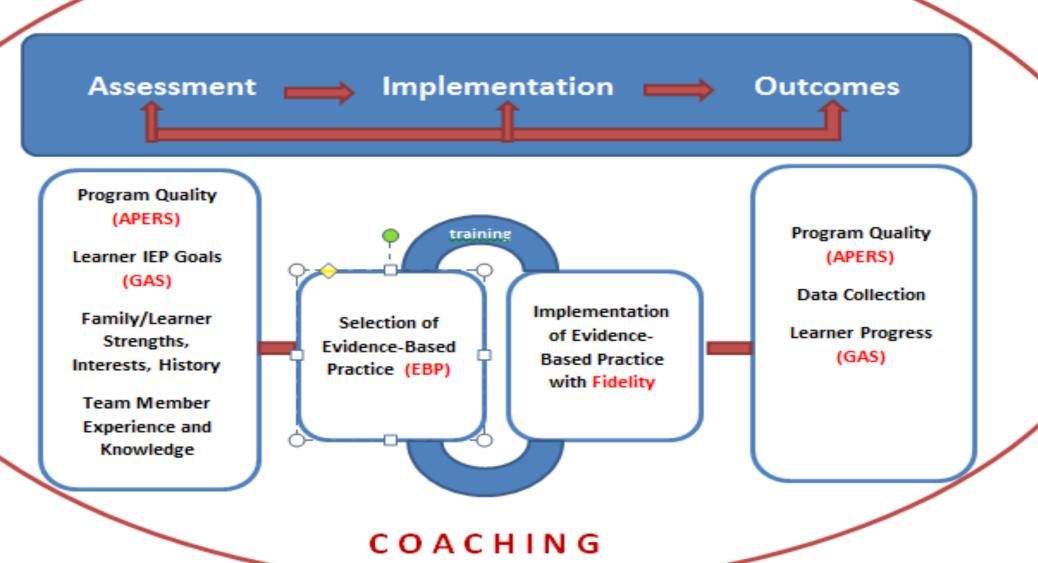


Elements of a High Quality Classroom: **Teaming**

- Regular team meetings
- Organization for making decisions
- A key team member (e.g., special education teacher, SLP) assigned as leaders



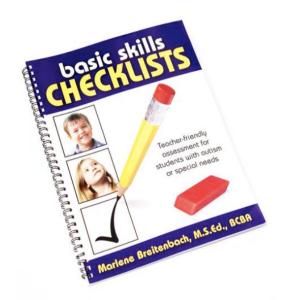
NPDC Model

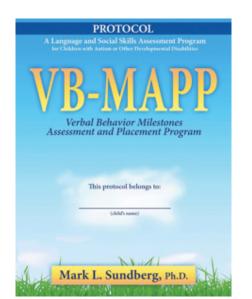


Assessing the Child/Youth for Developing

Goals

 Criterion referenced measure that provides information on skills





Brigance Diagnostic Comprehensive Inventory of Basic Skills

- Primarily used to:
 - Assess elementary and middle school students
 - Prekindergarten to grade nine
 - Assess basic academic skills
- · Measurement is:
 - Criterion-referenced
 - Focus on the content rather than comparison to others

- Assessment of 203 skill sequences in:
 - Readiness
 - · Speech

The Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills

ABLLS'-R Protocol

Partington Behavior Analysts

- Listening
- Reading
- Spelling
- WritingResearch and study
- · Graphs & Maps
- · Math

Sources of Information for Developing Goals

- Assessment information
- Family priorities
- Students goals if they can participate
- Skills needed in the current environment
- Skills needed in the next and future environments
- Need to have clear outcome



Components of a Measurable IEP Goal

<u>Antecedent</u>	<u>Behavior</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
Setting	➤ Specific	># of times
➤With whom	> Observable	➤ Amount of time
Supports provided	≻Measurable	≻Percent
≻High v. low		➤ Consistency
structure		➤ Data collection
		method
"When this event	the student will do	at this rate or level
occurs,	this behavior(s),	of proficiency."



EXAMPLE: ANDREW

Which goal is a highly measurable goal?

EXAMPLE 1:

Andrew will be more social with his peers.

EXAMPLE 2:

During a peer network activity with visual scripts, Andrew will initiate conversations with at least 2 peers, 4 out of 5 opportunities.



A Highly Measurable Goal

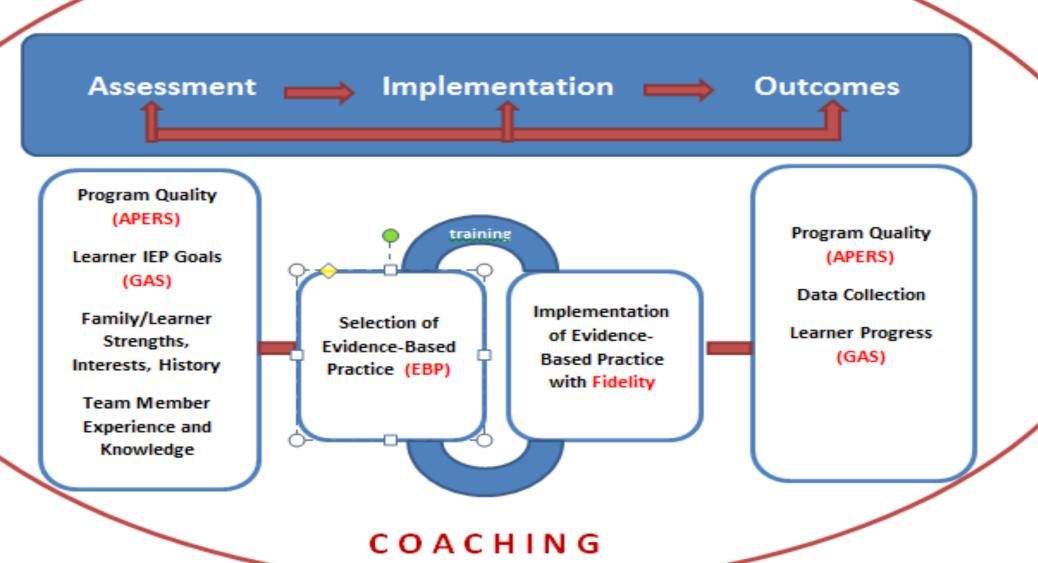
Antecedent	Behavior	Criteria
During a peer network activity with visual scripts,	Andrew will initiate conversations with at least 2 peers,	4 out of 5 opportunities.



Example of Observable and Measurable Goals

- At the beginning of class, Chen will turn in his homework when assigned 100% of the time for three days in a row.
- At lunch, Ling-Ling will make four statement to peers, 75%% of the time for one school week.
- During class academic activities, Martin will follow two-step directions from the teacher 80% of the time for three days in a row.

NPDC Model



From Goals to EBP

Selecting and Using

Evidence-based Practices

What are EBPs?

Focused interventions that:

- Produce specific behavioral and developmental outcomes for a child
- Have been demonstrated as effective in applied research literature
- Can be successfully implemented in educational settings

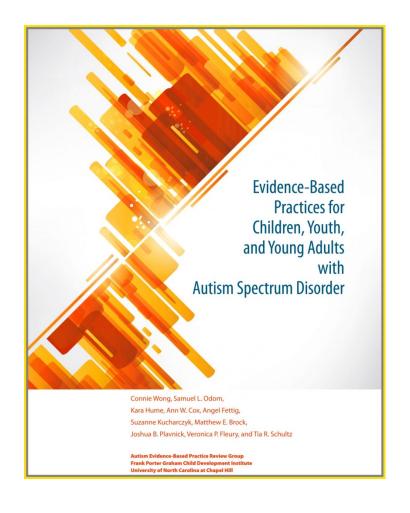
(Odom, Colett-Klingenberg, Rogers, & Hatton, 2010)



Evidence-Based Practices

- Wong et al. 2014 recently updated Odom et al. (2010) EBP review http://autismpdc.fpg.unc.edu/sit es/autismpdc.fpg.unc.edu/files/2
- Began with pool of 29,105+ articles and reduced to 456
- 27 EBPs identified

014-EBP-Report.pdf



Evidence – Based Practices (2014)

Antecedent-based interventions

Cognitive behavioral intervention

Differential reinforcement

Discrete trial training

Exercise

Extinction

Functional behavior assessment

Functional communication training

Modeling

Naturalistic interventions

Parent-implemented intervention

Peer-mediated instruction/intervention

Picture Exchange Communication SystemTM

Pivotal response training

Prompting

Reinforcement

Response interruption/redirection

Scripting

Self-management

Social narratives

Social skills training

Structured play groups

Task analysis

Technology-aided

intervention/instruction

Time delay

Video modeling

Visual supports



Evidence-Based Focused Intervention Practices

Fundamental Applied Behavior Analysis Practices

- Reinforcement
- Prompts
- Time delay
- Modeling
- Task analysis

Positive Behavior Intervention and Support

- Functional assessment
- Antecedent-based intervention
- Extinction
- Response interruption/redirection
- Differential reinforcement of alternative/other behavior
- Functional communication training



Evidence-Based Focused Intervention Practices

Social Communication Interventions

- Social skills training
- Peer-mediated interventions and instruction
- Social narratives
- Structured play groups
- Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS®)

Broad Teaching Strategies

- Visual supports
- Discrete trial training
- Naturalistic interventions
- Pivotal response training
- Parent implemented interventions
- Scripting
- Exercise



Evidence-Based Focused Intervention Practices

Cognitive Behavior

- Self management
- Cognitive behavior interventions

Technology Oriented

- Technology-assisted instruction and intervention
- Video modeling



Instructional Domains

- Social
- Communication
- Behavior
- Joint attention
- Play
- Cognitive

- School readiness
- Academic
- Motor
- Adaptive
- Vocational
- Mental health

Matrix of Evidence-based Practices by Outcome and Age

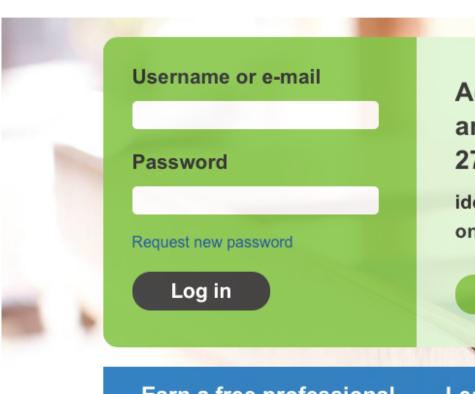
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AFIRM Modules

Learn with AFIRM

Earn CE Credits

Selecting EBPs



Access free AFIRM online modules and resources for each of the 27 evidence-based practices

identified by the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Sign Up

It's free and only takes a few minutes

Earn a free professional development certificate for completing each EBP module

View modules

Learn with AFIRM

through engaging case examples, videos, and interactive assessments

Find out more

Download resources and materials

that support your use of EBPs with children and youth with ASD

View Resources

https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu

Evidence-based Practice Resources

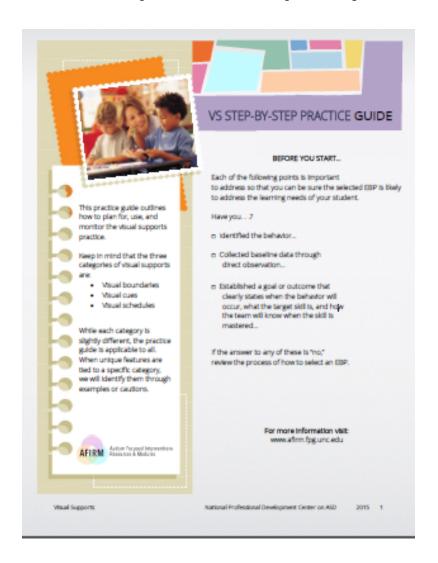
• EBP Briefs

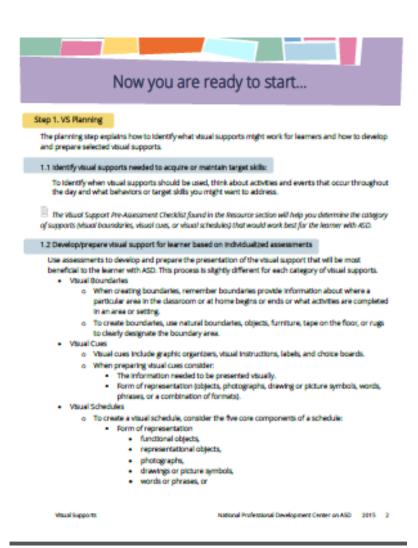
(http://autismpdc.fpg.unc.edu)

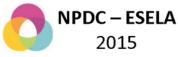
- Overview of Practice
- Evidence-base for Practice
- Steps for Implementation
- Implementation Checklist
- Data Collection Forms (optional)



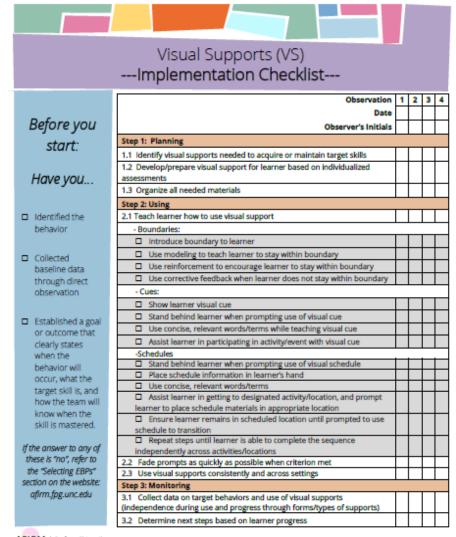
Example: Step-by-Step Directions







Example: Implementation Checklist





Example: Data sheet

Differential Reinforcement (DR)



DR Fr	equency	Data Colle	ction
Observer(s):			
Interfering Behavior(s):		

Frequency Data:

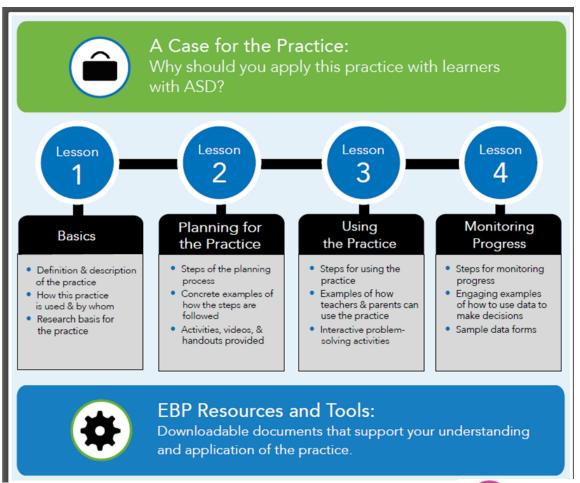
Setting:

Use frequency recording to collect data on every instance of the target behavior.

Opera	tional D	efinition	of Inter	fering Behavior:			
Date	Start Time	Stop Time	Total Time	Tally	Total	Rate	Before, During, After (circle one)
							Before During After
							Before During After
							Before During After
							Before During After
							Before During After
							Before During After
							Before During After
							Before During After
							Before During After

For more information, visit: www.afirm.fpg.unc.edu







Other Website Resources

CSESA Resources

http://csesa.fpg.unc.edu/resources/learning-resources

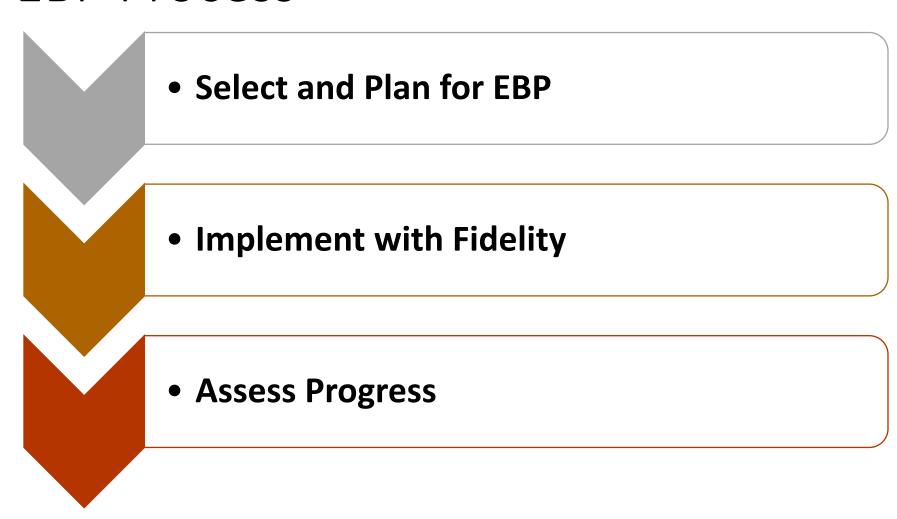
AIM Modules

www.autismInternetmodules.org



Process for Choosing and Using the EBP

The EBP Process



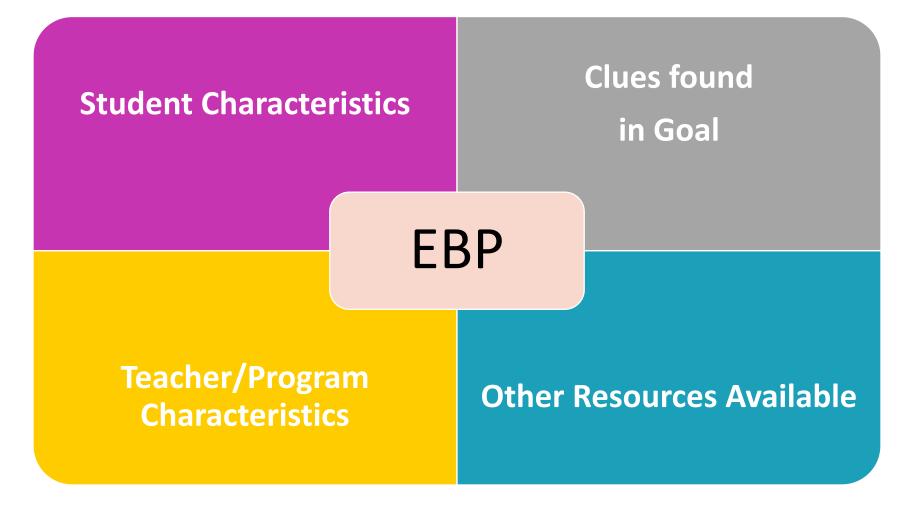


The EBP Process

 Select and Plan for EBP • Implement with Fidelity Assess Progress



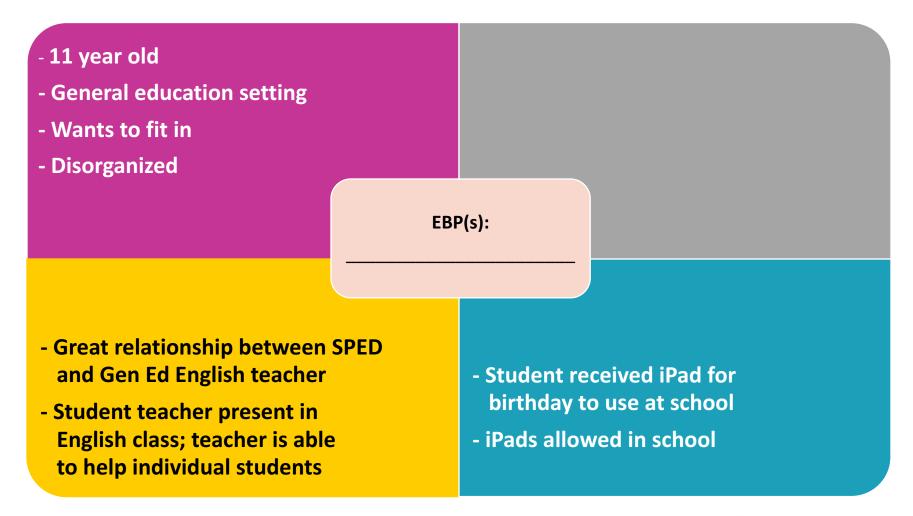
When Selecting EBP Consider:





Matthew

When given an assignment, Matthew will present completed to-do list and assignment to teacher by the due date for 4of 5 assignments per week.



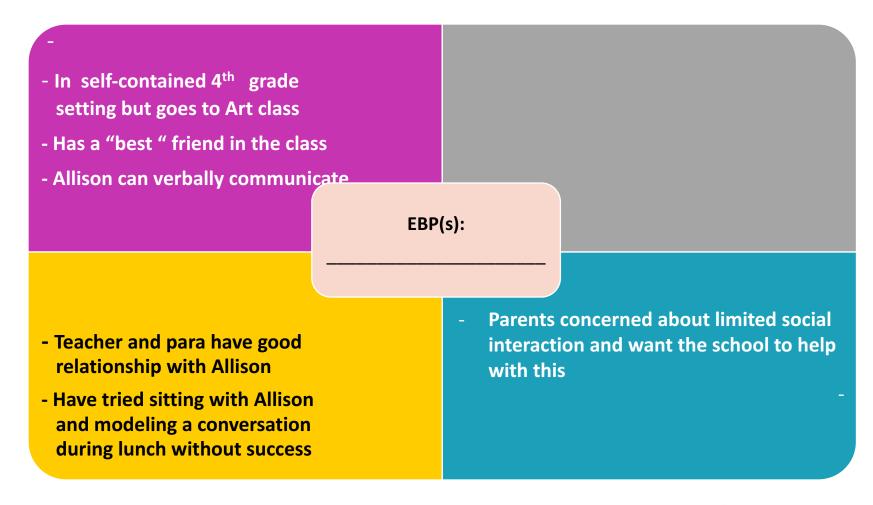


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Allison

During lunch, Allison sits at the end of the table in the cafeteria by herself without speaking and watches her classmates. Her teacher would like for Allison to participate in the lunchroom conversation with her classmates.





Matrix of Evidence-based Practices by Outcome and Age

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Implement EBP with Fidelity

Why Is Implementing with Fidelity Important?

• For a practice to work, it has to be implemented as designed.

The EBP Process

Select and Plan for EBP

• Implement with Fidelity

Assess Progress



Now What?



NPDO

Implementation

What you know!

- ✓ Understand student characteristics
- ✓ Clear, observable, and measureable goal that is scaled
- ✓ Resources available in your classroom or at the school

What you need to do!

- Determine who will implement
- Decide how to best learn about practice
- What data will I need to collect and on what form
- Check fidelity of implementation
- Who to help!



When learning something new...

- Do It Yourself (DIY)
- Training
- Coaching



When learning something new...

- Do It Yourself
- Training
- Coaching





When learning something new...

- Do It Yourself
- Training
- Coaching



Classic Coaching Model

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Cd7Bsp3 dDo

Coaching Components

Preobservation Conference

Select coaching target, obs plan, data collection plan

Postobservation Conference

Discuss obs, discuss ways to change behavior, plan for ongoing support

3 Components
Of Cyclical
Coaching
Process

Observation

Collect data for meaningful discussion and planning

Feedback & Support from NPDC

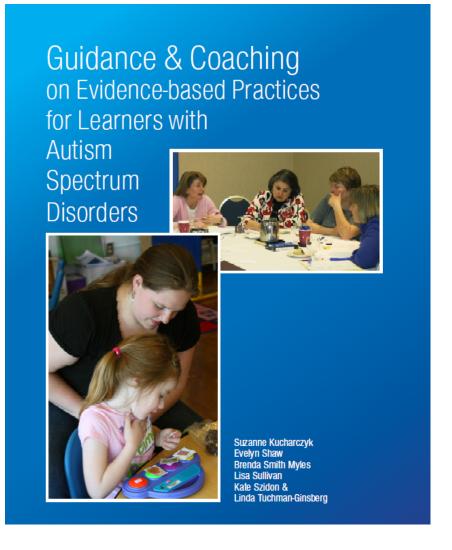
Coaching

- Key ingredient in all components of the model
- Internal and external coaches
- Relationship-based



Coaching Is an Essential Feature of Implementation

- A minimum of one day per week on site or remotely
- Rapport and relationship
 - Mutual respect
 - Agreed upon goals
- Time
- Tools
 - EBP or other practices
 - Fidelity checklists
- Feedback
- Planning



The EBP Process

 Select and Plan for EBP • Implement with Fidelity Assess Progress



Gather and Analyze Progress

- Student Progress
 - Goal based data collection
- Implementer Progress
 - Implementation Checklists
- Revise Plan as necessary





Example Data Sheet

Autism Focuse	d Intervention	Reinforcement Event Sa	mpling	Data Collection
Resources & N Date:	k Modules Time:			
Learner's	Name:			er:
/ territy.		Skill:		Before, During, or after
Date		SKIII.	Total	reinforcement
Date	Observer	Target Skill/Behavior, Comments, and	Plans for Nex	xt Steps
	Initials			
Date	ate Observer Target Skill/Behavior, Comments, and Plans for Next Steps			



Website Resources

- NPDC
- https://autismpdc.fpg.unc.edu
- AFIRM
- https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu
- CSESA Resources
- http://csesa.fpg.unc.edu/resources/learning-resources
 - AIM Modules
 - www.autismInternetmodules.org



