



Positive Reinforcement

Positive Behavioral Supports and Interventions

Behavioral Interventions

Behavioral interventions aim to increase the likelihood of desirable behaviors and decrease the likelihood of undesirable behaviors. Positive Behavioral Supports and Interventions are used to model, teach, and reinforce positive behavior in all students. The most effective and humane way to reduce undesirable behavior is by developing, strengthening, and generalizing desirable behavior to replace undesirable behavior. In some situations, students may need additional interventions and support to learn, practice, and demonstrate desirable behaviors. More restrictive behavioral interventions should be temporary and approached with utmost caution. Proactive strategies should always be used, even when more restrictive interventions are implemented. The use of restrictive interventions should be based on assessment, planning, supervision, evaluation, documentation, and protective measures. The use of restrictive interventions should maintain respect for the student’s dignity and personal privacy and remain consistent with the educational goals of enhancing the student's academic, behavioral, social, and emotional growth.

It is important to note that the specific interventions used should be tailored to the individual student's needs and preferences. Regular assessment, collaboration with relevant professionals, and ongoing observation of the student's response to the interventions are crucial for determining their effectiveness and making necessary adjustments.

Positive Behavioral Supports and Interventions are prevention strategies and are preferred because of the low risk of negative side effects, and the high priority placed on teaching behavior opposed to managing and controlling behavior. They may be used without the development of a written behavioral intervention plan and without documentation in the individualized education program (IEP). Examples of these interventions include:

<p>Positive Reinforcement</p>	<p>Positive reinforcement involves providing a favorable stimulus or consequence immediately following a desired behavior. It aims to increase the likelihood of the behavior occurring again in the future by associating it with a positive outcome. Positive reinforcement can be an effective tool for promoting and strengthening desirable behaviors while</p>
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	<p>decreasing undesirable behaviors. Reinforcers are very individualized, and each student's interests should be assessed using a reinforcer preference assessment. A reinforcer preference assessment is a systematic process used to identify the preferred stimuli or activities that can serve as effective reinforcers for an individual. It involves gathering information about the individual's preferences to determine which specific items, activities, or events are most likely to motivate and reinforce their behavior. The assessment helps identify the most highly reinforcing items to use in behavior intervention programs.</p>
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Examples of Positive Reinforcement:

A teacher praises a student for completing their homework on time, saying, "Great job! I'm proud of your effort and dedication. The student's homework completion increases in the future. A parent offers a reward (i.e., an ice cream cone) after their child completes their chores without being reminded. The child continues to do chores in the future. A teacher grants extra free time or a preferred activity to a student who consistently follows classroom rules and demonstrates desired behavior. The student engages in the desired behavior more in the future. A group of friends positively reinforce one another by expressing excitement and enthusiasm when someone shares their ideas or accomplishments.

Non-examples of Positive Reinforcement:

Offering a reward or privilege before the desired behavior occurs to motivate the learner to comply. For example, a teacher promises extra free time if students stop talking during class. This is a bribe. A bribe involves using rewards to manipulate or control behavior for personal gain. The key distinction here is the timing of the reward. In positive reinforcement, the reward is given after the behavior is performed, while a bribe involves offering the reward beforehand as a means of influencing behavior.