

Adaptations/Modifications

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 rise 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:

Adaptations/Modification

Adaptations and modifications are strategies used in education to make learning environments and materials more accessible and appropriate for individuals with diverse learning needs. Adapting or modification of instructional assignment to increase the student's motivation, attention, success, etc. and decrease undesirable behavior. While the terms "adaptations" and



"modifications" are often used interchangeably, they are different. Adaptations involve altering instructional strategies, materials, or tasks to better align with a student's learning style, strengths, or challenges without fundamentally changing the learning goals. Adaptations aim to provide support and accommodations that allow the student to access and engage with the curriculum effectively. Modifications involve making substantive changes to the curriculum or learning goals to meet the unique needs of individual students. Modifications are typically employed when students require significant adjustments to the content or learning outcomes due to cognitive, developmental, or other disabilities. Both adaptations and modifications can be used to help increase desired behavior.

Examples of Adaptations:

Providing additional visual aids or manipulatives to support understanding, offering extended time for completing assignments or assessments, breaking down complex tasks into smaller, more manageable steps, allowing flexible seating or positioning options to accommodate physical needs, providing preferential seating closer to the teacher or away from distractions, and using assistive technology tools, such as text-to-speech or speech-to-text software are examples of adaptations.

Examples of Modifications:

Simplifying or reducing the complexity of assignments or tasks, adjusting the curriculum to focus on key concepts or essential skills, modifying grading criteria or assessment methods to account for individual abilities, offering alternate or modified versions of reading materials or texts, and providing individualized learning plans that target specific learning goals are examples of modifications.