TOOLS FOR YOUR TOOLBOX: COPING WITH COVID-19

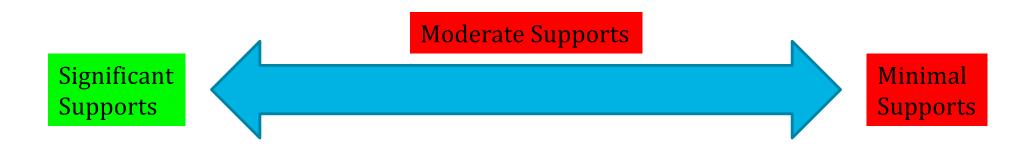
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APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS-AUTISM DEPARTMENT

Who Are We Talking About Today?

- NOT for students requiring minimal supports
- NOT for students able to participate, even minimally, in remote instruction
- This is for students requiring significant supports, "Who are not able to equitably access remote instruction."





Remember...

"It is totally normal right now to be okay one day and struggling the next or to be relaxed one minute and overwhelmed the next.

We are living and working through a global crisis."

Dr. Jen Heemstra



For All Parents and Caregivers...

What you are doing is OK!
What you are doing is OK!
What you are doing is OK!



* Adapted from Dr. Brandon Bayne

- Nobody signed up for this!
 - Not for the social distancing
 - Not for the sudden end of our usual lives
 - Not for having our kids at home, alone, without any help
 - Not for "online learning"
 - Not for having to become my child's special education teacher



* Adapted from Dr. Brandon Bayne

- The humane option is the best option.
 - We are going to prioritize supporting each other as humans
 - We are going to prioritize simple solutions that make sense for the most
 - We are going to prioritize sharing resources and communicating clearly



* Adapted from Dr. Brandon Bayne

- We cannot just do the same thing online.
 - Some assignments are no longer possible
 - Some expectations are no longer reasonable
 - Some objectives are no longer valuable



* Adapted from Dr. Brandon Bayne

- We will remain flexible and adjust to the situation.
 - Nobody knows where this is going and what we'll need to adapt
 - Everybody needs support and understanding in this unprecedented moment



Setting Realistic Expectations For YOURSELF!

- EVERYBODY is struggling
- Your job is NOT to become a special education teacher
- You are NOT doing home schooling
- You are attempting some form of "Emergency Remote Teaching"
- Or if you prefer "Emergency Virtual Learning" (EViL)



What Does Your Child Understand?

 Many of us are watching the news obsessively... trying to understand what is happening, how to cope, and plan for a return to normal.

- What about your child with ASD?
 - Social Stories
 - Planned visit to the <u>locked</u> school building
 - Monthly calendar



MAY2020

SUN		MON		TUE		WED		THU		FRI		SAT	
										No School	01	Weekend No School	02
Weekend No School	03	No School	04	No School	05	No School	06	No School	07	No School	08	Weekend No School	09
Weekend No School	10	No School	11	No School	12	No School	13	No School	14	No School	15	Weekend No School	16
Weekend No School	17	No School	18	No School	19	No School	20	No School	21	No School	22	Weekend No School	23
Weekend No School	24	No School	25	No School	26	No School	27	No School	28	No School	29	Weekend No School	30



But what about the IEP?!?!?!

Your child's Individual Education Plan was written for learning outcomes under typical instructional conditions... at school!

- These ARE NOT typical instructional conditions!
- You ARE NOT at school!



Expectations For Home...

- One of the most critical pieces of your child's day is missing... their SCHEDULE
- So establish a consistent quarantine schedule
- But not an academic-based school schedule
- Create a FAMILY SCHEDULE and <u>involve</u> your child in what you are already doing each day



Emergency Remote IEP

- 1. FAMILY SCHEDULE: consistency, predictability, safety
- 2. CHILD INVOLVEMENT: an opportunity to invest in functional life goals simply by "doing" (to the extent that they can)
 - Example: "The Gilded Cage"

