

Common Learning Style of Individuals w ASD					
STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES				
Visual skills (also written)	Verbal skills				
Tasks with visuals & manipulatives	Language-based tasks				
Motor skills	Imitation skills				
Work routines	Social routines				
Motivation from structure & clarity of expectations	Motivation from social reinforcers				
Using provided visual and structural cues	Self-organization and sequencing				

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
Interest in some sensory materials	Distracted by sensory input
Interest in preferred materials and topics	Interest in other materials and topics
Concrete use of materials	Generalization & creativity
Task completion (if at developmental level)	Transitions
Focus on details	Focus on "big picture"
May show peak skills	Skills scattered in unpredictable ways



To Address These Issues

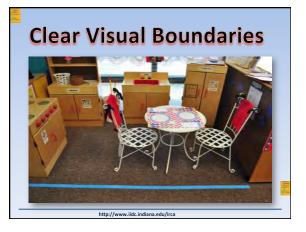
- Difficulties staying in an area/ running around the room
- Not understanding what the purpose of an area is and/or not following your verbal directions
- Confused about personal space or what materials/areas are theirs
- Easily distracted by things they see or hear in their environment
- http://www.iidc.indiana.edu/irca

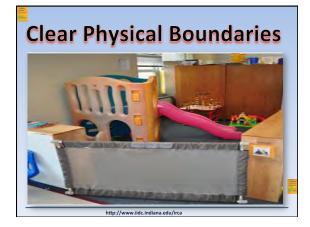
USE PHYSICAL STRUCTURE

 Arrange materials and physical space to segment the environment into meaningful parts to reduce stimulation and minimize distractions

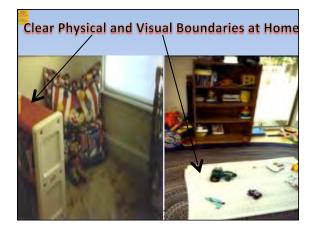
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- Define clear visual/physical boundaries
- Minimize distractions







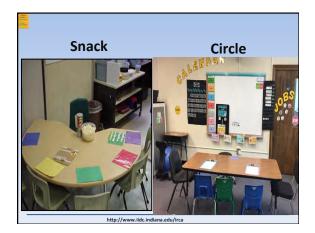


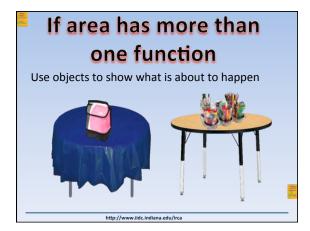


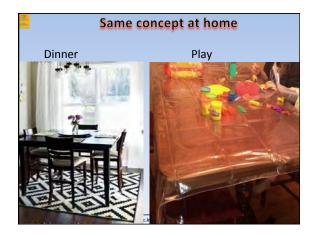














Checklist for Physical Structure

When you walk into the room the function of each area is clear

☑There are sufficient boundaries to each area to ensure that learners stay within the area and are not distracted by something outside of the area

☑Visual/auditory or other distractions have been removed or screened

☑Each learner has a place to: work independently, work with an adult learning something new, work in a pair/group, take a break, check their schedule.

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To Address These Issues

- Over dependent on others to prompt them to go to the next lesson or area
- Inflexible- difficulty tolerating change or transitions

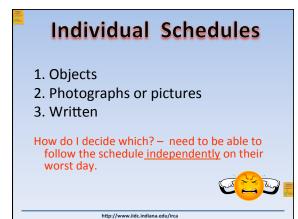
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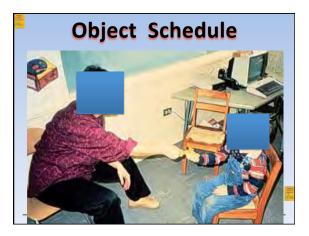
- Want to do things in the order they prefer and/ or same things over and over
- Anxious or confused about their environment and what is happening next.

USE: DAILY VISUAL SCHEDULE

- Visually tells what activities will occur and in what sequence so that learner can predict what will happen next.
- Promotes independence
- Can teach flexibility and tolerance of changes

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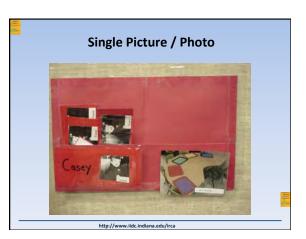


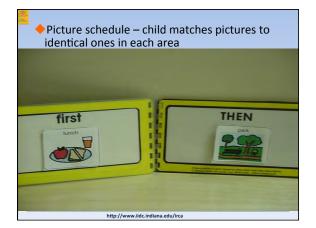




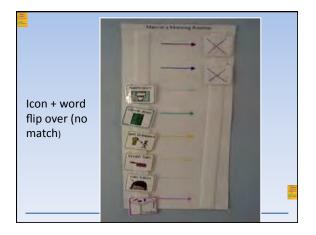












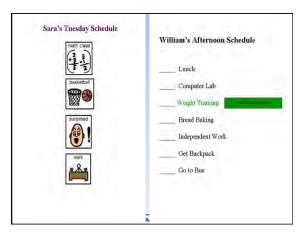


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	Things	
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	Work with Snack Work with Choose Fun Activity	Work with Teacher Snack Work with Teacher Choose Fun Things

Schedule for Middle School learner with some organizational needs							
Time	Class	Teacher	Room				
7.55-8.05	Homeroom	Weber	201				
8.10-9.00	Math	Miller	103				
9.05-9.55	Science	Jones	224				
10.00-10.50	History	Moore	104				
10.55-11.45	PE	White	Gym				
11.50-12.20	Lunch	Smith	201				
12.20-2.00	LA	Johnson	116				
2.00-2.50	German	Weber	201				
2.50	Get books from locker						

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Checklist for Setting Up Schedules

☑Learner has been taught to use schedule

☑Schedule shows what will happen next in the day

☑Schedule shows what has been completed and what hasn't

☑Visual way for learner to know when to check schedule ☑Learner using schedule independently to execute EVERY transition

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To Address These Issues

- Over dependent on others to prompt them to do the next task and/or not able to work alone
- Want to do tasks in the order they prefer and/or same things over and over
- Refusing to do tasks that are less preferred
- Struggling to generalize their learning from one place or person to another
- Not knowing what to do when they are done
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USE: INDIVIDUAL 'TO DO' LIST or WORK SYSTEM

- While the schedule moves the person from place to place the work system tells them to do when they get there.
- System needs to answer 4 questions (visually)
 What work?

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- How much work?
- When am I finished?
- What happens next?

TYPES OF WORK SYSTEMS

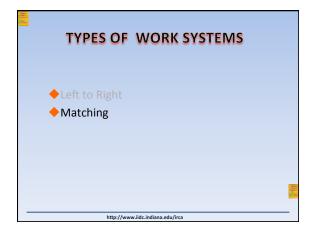
- Left to Right (object)
- Matching (picture/color/number etc.)

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Written



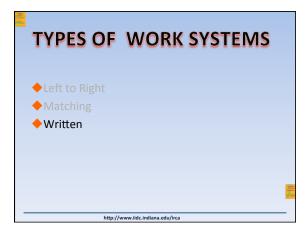


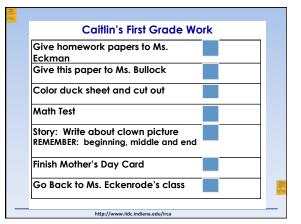


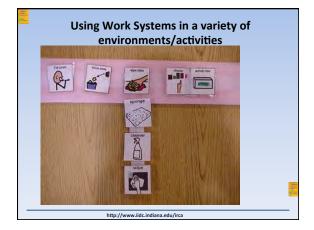


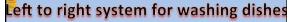














Checklist for Work Systems

☑Learner been taught to use the system

 $\ensuremath{\underline{\texttt{M}}}\xspace$ Learner is able to complete the amount of tasks during the period

 $\ensuremath{\underline{\texttt{M}}}$ System shows learner which things have been completed

 $\ensuremath{\underline{\texttt{M}}}\xspace$ Activities and tasks are specific enough for learner to complete independently

☑ System includes 'what's next' (or 'if you finish early')
 ☑ Learner is able to complete the tasks independently and then move on to the 'what's next' activity

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To Address These Issues

- Over dependent on others to prompt/ instruct them how to do a task and/or not able to complete it independently
- Disorganized, losing parts/materials or unable to set things up to start a task
- Refusing to do tasks that are less preferred
- Overly focused on seemingly irrelevant details within a task

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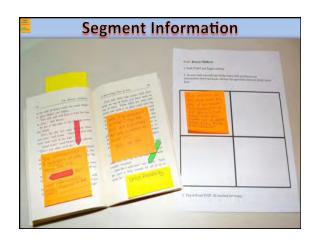
USE: VISUALLY STRUCTURED TASKS & MATERIALS

Shows learner how to approach task
 Individualize to increase learner independence

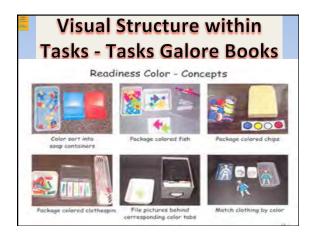
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See handout for examples of

- Materials define the task
- Organizing materials to enable independence
- Making simple tasks age appropriate
- Using cut-out & picture jigs as instructions
- Picture and written directions
- Similar tasks with different levels of complexity

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- Academic activities
- Tasks to teach concepts
- Vocational/domestic tasks
- Art Activities
- Leisure Activities

Checklist for Visual Tasks

☑Task includes a skill (or partial skill) that will be functional for that learner

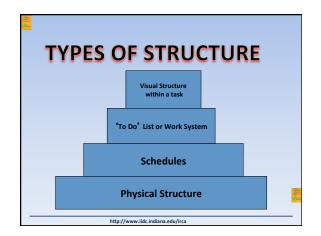
☑Task includes visual instructions at learner ability level (e.g. pictures for a non reader)

☑ Task and materials are organized in a way that allows learner to use them independently (e.g. in one box)

☑ Task uses visual way to highlight important details

☑ Learner has been taught the task

Learner is able to complete task independently (unless it is a paired or group task)



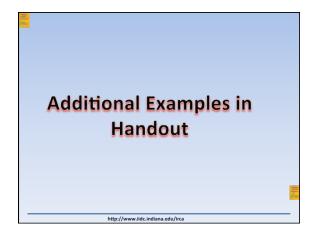
How Do I Know When I Need to Add Something Visual?

- If you find yourself telling the person the same thing over and over again.
- If a certain situation always seems to cause a problem.
- If the person's skills in a certain area seem a long way behind their other abilities.

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Resources Pinterest search for things like 'visual schedule'

- www.iidc.indiana.edu/irca (includes free Visual Supports section as well as articles about structured teaching)
- www.shoeboxtasks.com
- www.tasksgalore.com
- Lessonpix.com (online program for making pictures)
- Do2learn.com (website with visual supports)
- + Books & Research
- Kabot, S. & Reeve, C. (2010). Setting up Classroom Spaces That Support learners With Autism Spectrum Disorders. Shawnee Mission, KS: AAPC Publishing.
- Kabot, S. & Reeve, C. (2012). Building Independence: How to Set Up & Create Structured Work Systems. Shawnee Mission, KS: AAPC Publishing.
- Mesibov, G.B. & Shea, V. (2010). The TEACCH program in the era of evidence-based practice. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 40, 570-579.
- Tileston, D. W. (2010)). 10 Best Teaching Practices: How Brain Research and Teaching Styles Define Learning Competencies. 3rd
 Edition. Newbury Park, CA: Corwin



Put-In Tasks=Materials define the task













