Teaching Targeted Social-Emotional Skills

This document provides an activity for participants to create an individualized activity-by-routine skill matrix. Adapted from the Teaching Targeted Social-Emotional Skills Individualized Instructional Plan from the National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations (NCPMI).

About Xavier

This is not the first time that Xavier had a tantrum when playing with other children and sharing materials. His teacher has observed that he is fine when playing alone or has a similar toy to another child and engaging in parallel play. However, when he is in a small group with other children and the activity involves sharing and exchanging multiple materials, Xavier will become upset if children touch or use toys he is interested in using. Therefore, the teacher decides that Xavier needs **additional instruction on how to engage in social play with peers where there is an expectation that children will exchange materials.**

Directions

1. Review the Activity-by-Routine Matrix on the next page. Locate Xavier's name and the target skill at the top.
2. Identify how to initially teach and how to provide practice opportunities.
    a. Record ideas for **initially teaching** and **practicing** the skill at the top of your matrix under "How to Teach." What instructional methods and materials will be used?
    b. **How will you respond** when the child demonstrates the skill or behavior (feedback response)? Identify a strategy to use after the behavior occurs (e.g., descriptive feedback, social reinforcer, or toy). Record it at the top of your matrix under "How to Teach."
    c. Determine **when the learning opportunities will be embedded** throughout the day. Record at least one teaching or practice opportunity for each Event listed down the left-hand side of the matrix. For example, what teaching or practice will be incorporated into small group time?
3. Identify the helping prompts: **What will you do or say to elicit the skill or behavior?** If the child does not demonstrate the skill or behavior, what prompting sequence will you use (e.g., least-to-most or most-to-least)? Record it at the top of your matrix under "How to Help."