PROJECT ACCESS

Visual Schedules

DEFINITION

A visual schedule is a visual that communicates a series of steps in a specific routine or activity to help a learner manage daily events.

TYPES OF SCHEDULES

Based on the student's support needs, you can display an entire day, first-then, centers schedule, block by block, etc. Schedules can range from pictures or symbols, physical objects, written words, auditory recording. They can be stationary (pictured to the right) or portable (pictured below).

TEACH THE LEARNER

1. Introduce schedule and put in learners hand
2. Prompt learner by standing behind or to the side
3. Be consistent using concise and relevant words
4. Assist learner through steps of schedule
5. Provide positive praise and reinforcement as the complete the parts of the schedule.
6. Repeat steps as needed

BENEFITS

- Adjust more readily to changes in their environment
- Create quick and efficient transitions
- Decrease verbal prompt dependency
- Increase independence
- Learn routines quicker and more efficiently
- Demonstrate a decrease in frustration, anxiety, and aggressive behaviors
- Teach organizational, time related, and planning skills
- Give Structure to unstructured times

OBJECT SCHEDULE

For students with high support needs or visual impairment, Object schedules work well to help them understand what to expect next. These can be created by gathering objects that represent the next activity in the learner's schedule. Examples, a ball for PE, a pull-up for bathroom, or paint brush for art.

DIGITAL SCHEDULES

There are also many app options for creating visual schedules for students. This option is so relevant for their daily lives and can be used easily in the community, as well as, at home, school, or on the job.

REMINDERS

- Schedules should be individualized and developmentally appropriate based on student's support needs.
- Schedules should be age appropriate. For secondary, choose pictures that represent secondary students and activities.
- Schedules should not be removed when students are successfully navigating them independently, just because they are successful now doesn't mean they will be without it.

ADDITIONAL VISUAL SCHEDULE RESOURCES

- Visual Schedule Planner Application $14.99
- Project Access Resource Library FREE
- Teachers Pay Teachers FREE & Paid Resources Avalible

GET CONNECTED!