

HANDOUT: Verbal Behavior Strategies for Increasing Manding

Strategy 1: Teaching should occur in the student's natural environment where motivation is usually strong.

Strategy 2: Prompt mands initially to teach the child that it's easy to get things with verbal behavior, so as to not turn the child off to communicating.

Strategy 3: Always start work with the student requesting their most powerful reinforcers.

Strategy 4: Always teach specific mands.

Strategy 5: Capture and contrive as many opportunities as you can to teach manding throughout the day.

Strategy 6: Avoid "killing" a student's motivation for an item or activity: give some items for "free."

Strategy 7: Be a giver not a taker.

Strategy 8: Use a rotating array of reinforcement.

Strategy 9: Teach mands when the motivation is greatest for the item or activity.