

Sample Behavioural Script

The following is a sample behavioural script to help interrupt a non-preferred behaviour and gradually shape and redirect this to a more socially appropriate behaviour. This is only a sample and will need to be adjusted for your own student. Some behaviours can be barriers to inclusion within school and community activities. Your student needs to learn that this is not acceptable and to learn more appropriate ways to communicate his needs and wants.

For example, for loud vocalizing behaviour...

When your student is vocalizing loudly, try the following:

- Use a quick and effective method to calm him down or distract him so that he will stop the loud vocalization. For example, play music. (e.g., ear buds and an iPod)
- Wait for 2 - 5 seconds* of no loud vocalization, and then assist him to show what he is trying to say to you by using adapted signs or gestures. (E.g. "finished", if you think he is trying to tell you he wants to stop an activity; "go" if you think he is trying to tell you that he wants to get going, etc.)
- Then honour his request.

*Note: gradually increase the "wait" to 5 seconds, then 10 seconds, then 20 seconds, then 30 seconds)

Important: There needs to be a gap between your student's loud vocalization and the granting of his request, so that he learns that loud vocalization does not get him what he wants, but signing/gesturing etc. does.