

PROGRAM: Tolerate Denied Access

TARGET

- Therapist/caregiver says, “(---) is not available”
 - This statement should be varied, ex. “It’s not available now... maybe later... we can’t do that today...”

SAMPLE PROCEDURE

- Conduct preference assessment
 - Rank order of preferred items – select lowest preferred item for the individual to play with
- Allow the individual access to lowest preferred item for 30 seconds – 1 minute
- After the time is up, deny access to the item – “It’s not available,” “time to play with something else,” “can I have that” etc.
- Prompt the individual to engage in toleration response – “OK,” “I’ll play with it later,” “that’s fine” etc.
- If the individual emits toleration response (prompted/independent) & has **NO** challenging behavior – **reinforce** by allowing the individual to choose between 2 moderately preferred items.

PROMPT

- After the first denial, prompt the individual to ask for one more minute and honor that request.
- Once that time is up, prompt coping responses and communication
 - Prompts can be verbal, gestural, physical etc. (depends on the individual)
 - Consider having visuals available to aid understanding and make the situation more concrete for the individual

POTENTIAL MATERIALS TO USE

- Timer
- Visuals
- Tokens/edibles/other preferred items
- Social stories
- Coping tools: emotion cards, coping strategies visual

DATA

- If you are graphing the data, you could mark a + for if the individual tolerated the denial and a – if challenging behaviour was exhibited. At the end of the session/day, you would take the total +’s and divide by the total number of denials that occurred throughout the day.
- This is useful to track in order to see if your intervention is working.