Mini Schedule

How to use a Mini Schedule:

Blank Board Sample:



Filled Board Sample:

Rationale:

Organizes specific tasks/events. For example, wash hands = turn on water + use soap + rub hands + rinse hands = special reward. Mini Schedules may facilitate independence and reduce anxiety about expectations.

What is the difference between a Daily Schedule and a Mini Schedule?

A daily schedule provides information about your child's day e.g., clean bedroom, go to library, play at the park, go to grandma's house etc. A mini schedule provides step-by-step instructions to break down routines/activities e.g., hand washing.

How to teach:

- Identify when your child would benefit from an activity being broken down into components.
- Have your child choose a reward/reinforcer independently, if appropriate to be given upon completion of the tasks.
- At the beginning of the activity, review your child's Mini Schedule with him/her and point to the pictures to indicate where to begin.
- Use gestural prompts to cue your child as needed to complete each task one at a time; your child should be encouraged to point/remove the pictures him/herself.
- Once your child completes the whole sequence, offer the reward/reinforcer immediately with verbal praise, smiles, high five, etc.
- If necessary, use gestural prompts instead of verbal prompts, as this will reduce prompt dependency and increase independence.



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References:

Hodgdon, L. (1995). *Visual strategies for improving communication: Volume 1: Practical supports for school and home.* Troy, MI: Quirk Roberts.

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