



Corrective and Affirmative Feedback

Description

Affirmative and corrective feedback during instruction is essential for students to master the skills to reach their academic and functional learning goals. Affirmative and corrective feedback should be goal-directed and delivered positively to students as they practice needed skills. The feedback should name the specific behavior and should be delivered in a developmentally appropriate manner. Affirmative feedback assures students of their answers and provides one more opportunity for practice. Corrective feedback informs students of their mistakes and provides them with the opportunity for perfect practice.

Implementation Tips

Affirmation: Some students need more repetition to master skills and concepts. Affirming responses when students answer correctly is one way to increase motivation and provide more repetition for the student. When students give the correct response, affirm their answer and repeat it for all students.

- Pause after the student(s) provide the correct response.
- Quickly affirm with words like “Yes”, “Perfect”, etc.
- Repeat the correct response.

Corrective Feedback: Students are more likely to remember when we correct the mistake or help them find the correct answer and allow them to practice correctly.

- Stop student(s) immediately when a mistake has been made.
- Provide or prompt the correct response.
- Repeat the task.
- Have the student provide the correct response.
- Provide an affirmation by repeating the correct answer.

Helpful Hint: Avoid calling on another student to share the correct answer because the student might disengage in that process, and you can also run the risk of another incorrect response.

Resources

- High Leverage Practices for Students with Disabilities Video “Provide Positive and Corrective Feedback to Guide Students’ Learning and Behavior:” <https://highleveragepractices.org/hlps-8-and-22-provide-positive-and-constructive-feedback-guide-students-learning-and-behavior>
- **Classroom Example:** Watch as Ms. Edmondson from Van Wyck Elementary School in the Lancaster County School District provides affirmative and corrective feedback.

References

- Archer A., & Hughes, C. (2011). *Explicit instruction: effective and efficient teaching*. Guildford Press.
- McLeskey, J., Barringer, M-D., Billingsley, B., Brownell, M., Jackson, D., Kennedy, M. Lewis, T., Maheady, L., Rodriguez, J. Scheeler, M.C., Winn J., & Ziegler, D.(2017). *High leverage practices in special education*. Arlington, VA. Council for Exceptional Children & Ceedar Center.