

Gravesham Early Years Specialist Teaching & Learning Service



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Simple TEACCH

TEACCH is a structured teaching model which enables children to understand their environments and work more independently.



The TEACCH approach involves:

- focusing on the child, their skills, interests and needs
- being flexible and teaching flexibility
- Structuring the physical environment
- Using visual supports to make the sequence of daily activities predictable and understandable
- Using visual supports to make individual tasks understandable
- Understanding the concept of finished

In Early Years we use a simple TEACCH method to introduce children to adult-led learning times in readiness for when they start school where they will be expected to follow a daily routine of structured activities.

Over time children would be expected to increase the number of activities and/or the time spent on an activity.

This specific strategy enables the child to see what they need to do and 'file' it away once completed.

Strategy

Introduce a child to a structured adult-led session at a table.

Using pictures or objects of reference to represent the activities you are going to do for the session (It would recommend using the same activities for a week).

The first activity should be something the child likes to do, followed by an adult-led activity. The third should be an incentive activity that the child sees as a reward. This should still have a focus rather than a 'play' activity.

The child then has to complete the activity taking the picture off when completed.

To start with these activities may only last 20-30 seconds, they can be extended gradually over time as the child's attention span increases (A timer is NOT recommended as this is restrictive in extending time gradually)

It is important that the child begins to understand they have to complete the activities before moving on to something they like - as this is an adult-led learning time the finish should be under your control not when they want to finish. This will mean 'reading' the child and finishing before they have had enough so you are in control not the child.

Use the visuals to show him what they are doing and what is next.



You could also carry this out as a structured small group time with 4–6 children.

It could then incorporate activities such as
Sensory Circuits

The Attention Bucket

Chatter or Story bags

Turn taking games such as Pop-up-Pirate

Collaborative games where children work together to complete:

Building a tower

Completing a puzzle together

Useful links:

[Shoebox Tasks - TEACCH Task Boxes, Autism Independent Work Tasks](#)

[Home | TEACCH® Autism Program](#)