

## Planning the Activity PE Symbol Song (Megan and student)

| Six Essential Elements   | How is the essential included in the planned activity?   |
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| 1. Builds on <b>student's strengths and interest, opportunity for choice-making</b>  | <p>This student LOVES swimming in PE class. Unfortunately the class only swims on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On M/W/F she gets extremely agitated when she shows up for PE with the expectation to swim and finds out it's something different. So we built a PE weekly schedule that showed M/T/W/Th/F in a sequence. Instead of the days of the week, we made PE symbols that showed Treadmill, Swimming, Treadmill, Swimming, Treadmill. This is a video of our learning what the symbols "say" through a song Megan made up on the fly.</p> |
| 2. Includes <b>peers in the interaction</b>  | <p>Even though this interaction was meant to be a way to teach the student her schedule symbols, her peers ended up LOVING the little songs we made up. It became a cueing system as they walked to the different activities that the symbols represented!</p>   |
| 3. <b>Creates an atmosphere of play</b> (social and/or symbolic) with modeling and encouragement   | <p>Notice how the student tries to "trick" Megan a couple of times on purpose. She is playing with the language to try and re-direct Megan to her all-time favorite activity of "twirling." Instead of stopping to correct or to point out the error, Megan confirms the student was "joking with her" and this was a completely normal teenage thing to do!</p>   |
| 4. <b>Provides a context for activity</b> through predictable routines, consistent and accessible locations, adequate space for enactment and story creation | <p>Talk about routines. As the symbol reading became more familiar through singing, routines that the symbols represented became predictable. Even though we showed up for PE and it wasn't a swimming day, the student had the dignity of understanding this ahead-of-time and could mentally and emotionally and physically prepare herself for it.</p>  |
| 5. <b>Includes the use of props and actions and physical enactment</b>   | <p>The symbol is made of terrycloth/towel and comes in and out. One of the student's peers was working on braille tracking left to right. Even though this student was not a braille reader yet, she got to practice what it looked and felt like with her hands on top of Megan's. This is also a way to have some dignity around literacy and communication.</p>   |

6. **Adult is flexible and supportive** (acknowledging, accepting, expanding on participant input) and **provides scaffolding** between highly directive and participatory role and non-directive encourager and scribe.

You want to crumple up the braille paper because it feels good? NO worries. That tells me you are ready for something different! But you still get some props for singing your schedule symbol song with me!! High five!!