

VBC 6th Annual Conference Presentation Parts 1 & 2

Date

March 30-31, 2023

Title

Speech Production: There is more than what the eyes can see, and the ears can hear!

Abstract

Many children diagnosed with autism experience speech and language delays, impairments in speech sound acquisition, and difficulty emitting and initiating verbal responses. These speech and language challenges may interfere with later acquisition of vocal verbal behavior (Esch, Carr & Michael, 2005; Schreibman, L. E. & Stahmer, A. C., 2014). Many early intensive behavior intervention programs focus on increasing and improving speech production, especially that early implementation of effective teaching procedures is critical to promote early, frequent, varied and generalized vocal verbal repertoires. An understanding of the structure and function of speech development and production, as well as effective strategies that facilitate speech production and accuracy, drawing from the disciplines of both applied behavior analysis and speech-language pathology, will enhance the selection of appropriate targets and support the implementation of effective and meaningful intervention programming. Behavior analysts are ethically bound to seek consultations, collaborate, and cooperate with other professionals to serve their clients effectively, functionally, and meaningfully (BACB[®] 2020). Behavior analysts and speech-language pathologists must work together as part of an interdisciplinary team, especially when addressing speech and language skill acquisition programs. Effective collaborative skill competencies and practices are needed to help build trusting and sustainable partnerships that will foster understanding and respect of the value that each discipline brings, facilitate joint problem solving, draw from the expertise of each discipline, establish shared ethical values and goals, that will benefit the learner's overall health and educational outcome. Presentation Part 1 will present (1) a brief introduction of the necessary structures and functions for speech production and why they are important considerations; and (2) discuss effective strategies that facilitate speech sound target selection. Presentation Part 2 will (1) discuss effective strategies that facilitate speech production and accuracy, and (2) highlight the importance for Authentic Interprofessional Collaborative Culturally Aware and Responsive Practices (*AICARe-Collaboration*) (Slim, L. 2022).

Learning Objectives

After attending these presentations, participants will be able to:

1. Identify the necessary structures for speech sound production
2. Identify at least two effective instructional procedures that promote speech sound accuracy and production
3. Identify three reasons in support of Authentic Interprofessional Collaborative Culturally Aware and Responsive Practices (*AICARe-Collaboration*) when working on speech sound repertoires

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