Lunch and Learn with VCU-ACE
Stefanie Paul & Charlene Wentland
Communication Strategies for Families
Housekeeping

• For educational and quality control, we will be recording this zoom session.
• By participating, you are consenting to being recorded.
• Before this session is shared, we will edit to remove identifying information to protect your privacy.
• The Q&A section will be removed and only be shared as an anonymous transcript.
Communication is...

Basic Agreed Upon Assumptions:

• Every individual is unique
• Presume competence
• Communication is a fundamental right!
• You know your child best!
A Few Communication Tips

1. Acknowledge
2. Respond
3. Expand
4. Create
5. Facilitate
6. Break down
7. Keep it fun!
Create the “Need” to Communicate

In sight out of reach

Silly situations

Playful obstruction

Interruption/defer red

Sabotage

What can I?

Assistance

Portions
When and how might I do this?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Daily Routines</th>
<th>Domains</th>
<th>Target skills</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meal Time-Breakfast</strong></td>
<td>Adaptive (feeding) Cognition Communication Fine Motor Social</td>
<td>• Requesting choices • Following verbal directions • Sequencing • Eating with utensils • Transferring food and liquid between containers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Getting Dressed</strong></td>
<td>Adaptive (dressing) Cognition Communication</td>
<td>• Discrimination Sequencing • Requesting attributes (warm weather clothes versus cooler weather) • Eye-hand coordination • Grasping • Fasteners • Sorting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Possible Choices for Independent Play:</strong></td>
<td>Across all domains</td>
<td>• Requesting a choice • Engaging independently with materials in appropriate manner • Cause and effect • Eye hand</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supports for Young Children with Disabilities Matrix
(Developed by VCU-ACE and VCU-TTAC for Early Childhood)
Just Remember PRIDE

• Praise
• Reflect
• Imitate
• Describe
• Enthusiasm
### Upcoming Topics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 11, 2020</td>
<td>Why on earth does my child do that?</td>
<td>Carol Schall and Cyndi Pitonyak</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Registration Link: [https://vcuautismcenter.org/te/lunchandlearn.cfm](https://vcuautismcenter.org/te/lunchandlearn.cfm)
For questions or more information
Please visit:

www.vcuautismcenter.org

Or

e-mail: autismcenter@vcu.edu