

Unexpected Behaviors, Now What?

Supporting Emotions and Understanding Behaviors

Presented by:

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Virtual Presentations - August 20, 2025

Language of Emotions 8:30 am - 11:45 am

In this training, participants will be asked to consider how they currently teach various lessons related to emotions. We will consider how effective these strategies have been in teaching people to tell others how they are feeling. Utilizing the Pyramid Approach to Education as a basis for further developing communication skills we will discuss some additional ways to design effective lessons. We also will look at a very important part of language that helps communication partners better understand the perspective of the person delivering the message. We will review why this area may be difficult for autistic persons and suggest teaching strategies that may lead to more successful acquisition of these complex language skills.

Learning Objectives

- Identify 2 barriers related to expressing emotions and feelings for young autistic people
- Identify 2 traditional approaches to teaching the expression of emotion
- List 2 new strategies for teaching learners to express their emotions
- Identify 2 subtle aspects of language that make teaching emotions challenging

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Challenging Behaviors 12:30 pm - 3:45 pm

This training describes strategies for navigating behavior challenges with learners of all ages, in any environment. Using a case study, we discuss the importance of designing supportive learning environments based upon the Pyramid Approach to Education® framework. We will examine specific questions about each behavior. The answers to those questions will guide decisionmaking about which behaviors may require intervention. Once a behavior has been identified and an informed hypothesis as to the "why" of that behavior has been determined, we will explore a range of proactive strategies with a focus on skill-building to replace or reduce challenging behaviors because the learner will have new skills/behaviors for which they receive the same or better outcomes.

Participants will receive a template to assist decision-making related to the prevention of, reduction of, or replacement of behaviors that are currently adversely affecting a learner.

Learning Objectives

- Name the elements of The Pyramid Approach to Education: an approach to creating effective learning environments
- Identify factors that help us determine which behaviors may require intervention
- Consider why a behavior might occur
- Review the key elements of an effective plan to address contextually inappropriate behavior

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Target Audience:
All Educational Professionals

Questions/Additional Information: Contact: Lindsay Wiegel (541) 776-8590 x 3119