



Coaching

Action/Practice and Observation

Coaching is used by early intervention practitioners to build on the knowledge and confidence of caregivers to promote child learning within the context of their typical daily activities.

Observation and action/practice are two of the five research-based characteristics used for coaching to have a capacity-building effect.

Learning happens more rapidly and effectively for children and adults when it occurs in the context of the real-life experiences in which the knowledge or skill will be used.

The characteristic of Action/Practice provides the caregiver with an opportunity to show the coach what typically happens as part of the present activity (action by the caregiver/observation by the coach) and practice new responsive strategies with the child while the coach is available to observe and provide support as needed.

These observations assist the coach with how to help the caregiver analyze what's working or not working and consider possible options to promote the child's participation. The coach and caregiver can then identify what adjustments might need to be made or actions taken by the coach (coach modeling while the caregiver observes) so the caregiver can support the child to be more successful.