

# Adapting Pre-Teaching Strategies for Students with Complex Needs

## **Introductions**

- Picture description: Stacey, Matt, Kirsten, and guide dog Knightley standing together at Camp Spark
- Northwest Association for Blind Athletes
  - Vision
    - To be the national leader in transforming the quality of life for all individuals who are blind and visually impaired through participation in sports and physical activity.
  - Mission
    - To provide life-changing opportunities through sports and physical activity to individuals who are blind or visually impaired
      - Core Programs
        - Sports Outreach
        - Virtual Programs
        - o Camp Spark
        - Sports Adaptations
  - Core Values
    - Empower People
    - Grow Boldly
    - Strive for Excellence
    - Be Transparent
    - Be Inclusive
- Kirsten French
  - o Programs Manager, Camp Spark & Sports Adaptations
- Matt Coelho
  - Programs Specialist, Camp Spark & Sports Adaptations
- Stacey Gibbins
  - Vice President of Programs and Services

## Agenda

- Picture description: Session 7 campers' picture
- Essential Need
- Expectations
- Engaging Staff
- Impactful Resources
- Generalizing Skills



- Q&A
- Resources
- Upcoming Webinars

# Objectives

- By the end of this presentation, attendees will be able to:
  - Describe at least three positive ways that students with multiple disabilities are impacted by pre-teaching
  - Adapt at least five concepts of pre-teaching for students with multiple disabilities
  - Describe how concepts of pre-teaching can generalize across curricular and services for students with complex needs

What is important to consider when planning curriculum for students with complex needs?

Please share some thoughts in the chat!

## **Essential Need for Pre-Teaching**

- Picture description: Instructor pre-teaching a court layout with a tactile map with a camper
- Explicit instruction
  - Students with visual impairments have an increased need for explicit instruction
  - Students with complex needs have an even greater need for explicit instruction
  - o Pre-teaching allows for increased opportunities for explicit instruction
- Variety of staff working with student
  - Students with complex needs have an exceptional number of staff working with them
  - They receive a variety of services
  - Variety of teaching opportunities in smaller chunks of time
- Multiple instructional opportunities
  - Multiple different angles to approach a concept
  - Opportunity to break down teaching into smaller pieces
- Skill generalization
  - Opportunity to approach concept in multiple environments
  - The more environments in which students learn a skill, the more likely they will generalize the skill
- Skill crossover
  - Approach concept from multiple angles and lenses



 Focus will change in different areas but will allow for multiple touches on the same pre-teaching goal

Poll Question: What are the positive outcomes of utilizing pre-teaching with students with complex needs?

- More teaching opportunities
- · Building larger schema
- Generalizing information
- All of the above

## **Expectations**

- Staff
  - Maximize independence
    - Define the independence expectation for that student
      - Will change between students and between skills
    - Back-chaining & forward-chaining
  - Define goal
    - Will change between students & activities
    - Keep students in the learning zone
  - Set expectations
    - Student
      - Push students into the learning zone
      - Engage students in developing these expectations as much as possible
    - Staff
      - Define and communicate expectations
      - Maximize student engagement & independence
  - Communication
    - Staff
      - What you expect staff to do
      - Importance of pre-teaching
      - What everyone is covering in their respective areas
    - Parents
      - How they can be engaged
      - What they should cover and what they don't need to
  - Determine & evaluate outcomes
    - Ongoing & changing
- Student
  - Maximum Independence
    - Stretch & push students as much as possible



- Phase out support as able
  - Back-chaining & forward-chaining
- Generalize information
  - Multiple exposures in multiple environments
  - Essential for students with complex needs
- o Exposure to materials and environment
  - Emphasize concrete and realistic exposures
  - Expose students to same material in variety of environments as much as possible
- Generalize other skills
  - Pre-teaching allows for multiple exposures of multiple skills
  - Skill focus will change depending on the curricula area but other skills can be engaged & implemented

Poll Question: What should the expectations be for students with complex needs?

- Same understanding as peers
- Depends on the specific student
- · Full grasp of concept or skill
- Foundational understanding

## Impactful Resources

- Picture Description: Camper and counselor practicing goalball throw
- Virtual resources
  - Teaching videos
    - Particularly helpful for staff professional development & parents
- Physical materials
  - Emphasize using concrete & realistic materials
  - Expose student to these materials in a variety of scenarios
- Object schedule
  - o Impactful for exposure to materials, developing autonomy, O&M skills, etc.
- Tactile diagrams
  - Compensatory skills
  - O&M skills
  - Tie tactile diagram/map to the environment or concept to encourage schema building
- Maximize realistic representations
  - Students with complex needs benefit from concrete examples & materials as much as possible



- Phase in realistic representations as able while scaffolding with concrete materials & teaching
- Movement
  - o Students with CVI benefit from movement when trying to see an object
- Audibility
  - Use audible equipment to help students engage and track equipment
- Color
  - o Students with CVI often see specific colors, like red and yellow, best

#### PE Games

 PE games video for students with complex needs from NWABA's Video Resource Library

How can this video be utilized during pre-teaching with a student with complex needs?

Please share some thoughts in the chat!

## **Engaging Staff**

- Picture description: Counselor and camper laughing in the pool
- Set clear expectations
  - Be clear about how staff are supposed to help and how they should push independence
  - Be clear about who is covering what in which curriculum areas
- Provide resources
  - Professional development resources
    - Very impactful if these are small, concise bits of information
  - Virtual teaching resources, like NWABA's virtual resource library, are very helpful
  - Materials for doing the pre-teaching
- Provide training
  - Show staff what they are expected to do during pre-teaching
- Plan together
  - Determine crossover
    - What skills or concepts can be covered through different curricula
    - How can pre-teaching concepts/skills be integrated naturally into different curricula
  - Define common goal
    - What do you want the student to accomplish?
    - How can this be covered in different curricula?
  - Work within respective areas



- Focus on primary curricula while engaging pre-teaching concepts naturally
- Engage as many staff as possible
  - The more exposures a student with complex needs has to a skill or concept, the greater their chances of retention and generalization

Poll Question: What other service providers should be included (as applicable)?

- PT/OT
- Parents
- Paraprofessionals
- All of the above

## Generalizing Skills

- Picture description: Camper practicing goalball throw
- Engage other curricula
  - Focus on crossover when planning
    - This is essential for generalization
    - Allows for as many exposures to the concept as possible in small bites of information
- Maximize practice opportunities
  - Emphasize practical application
    - Builds space for generalization because skills are applied in reallife, applicable situations
- Maximize practice in a variety of settings
  - Gives students the opportunity to understand and experience, with explicit instruction, how skills and concepts apply to multiple scenarios & environments
- Build on skills building schema
  - The more schema students connect and develop the more skills they can generalize
  - Exponential learning and growth

Poll Question: What other curriculum areas can be included?

- P1
- Compensatory skills
- O&M
- All areas as applicable

## Questions & Answers

Please put any questions you have in the chat or raise your hand



#### Resources

- Picture description: Kirsten & athlete standing next to each other in a gym with a barbell in front of them filming SAL powerlifting videos
- PE Consultations
  - Reach out by phone or email to ask any questions about specific or general PE adaptations questions
- Adapted Equipment Lending Library
  - Over 400 pieces of equipment available
  - o Available only to regions we serve OR, WA, ID, and MT
- Video Resource Library
  - Videos all include adaptations manuals & tactile diagrams (when applicable)
  - More videos coming soon!
- Contact Information
  - Kirsten French
  - o Kfrench@nwaba.org
  - o 360-859-3116
- Shared links:
  - Video Resource Library: <a href="https://nwaba.org/sports-programs/video-resource-library-1/">https://nwaba.org/sports-programs/video-resource-library-1/</a>
  - Pre-teaching: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEmFPf6GHjg
  - Adaptive Equipment Lending Library: <a href="https://nwaba.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/sa">https://nwaba.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/sa</a> lending library inventory 2019 08 21 final.
    pdf
  - Lending Form: <a href="https://nwaba.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/sal-fillable-lending-form-2019-08-22-final.pdf">https://nwaba.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/sal-fillable-lending-form-2019-08-22-final.pdf</a>
  - o Contact Information: Kirsten French; kfrench@nwaba.org; 360-859-3116

## **Upcoming Webinars**

- Picture Description: Session 7 group picture
- Stay tuned for spring webinars with NWABA through APH ConnectCenter!

## Thank You!

• Thank you for coming and we hope to have you join us next time!