

Lesson Plan: “I Need Help”

Objective:

The student practices basic self-advocacy skills by identifying when he/she needs help and asks for assistance appropriately as he/she completes a puzzle that is missing a piece.

Setup:

- Remove one of the puzzle pieces and put it in your desk drawer (or another hiding place.)
- Put the remaining puzzle pieces and solution cards in a box so the student cannot easily see one block is missing.

Materials:



Stages Learning Materials Real Life Learning Vegetable Cube Puzzle.

*Note: Any cube puzzle can be used for this activity.

Procedures:

- Start the lesson by reviewing why people talk to each other. A specific conversation about various scenarios in which people ask for help may also be useful.
- Tell the student that they will be putting together a puzzle that might be tricky. Make it clear that you expect them to ask you for help when/if they need it.
- Let the student pick which picture they would like to put together. The student can keep the solution guide card to use as a reference throughout the puzzle-solving process.
- If the student appropriately asks for help as they work on the puzzle, assist them with only what they ask for. If it is clear they are stuck but are not asking for help, remind them that you are there to assist, but only if they tell you what they need.
- At some point the student will realize a piece is missing. They should appropriately let you know that they cannot complete the puzzle without the missing piece.
- When the student tells you the piece is missing, let them know you can think of a few places it might be. Ask if they would like your help in finding the missing piece. The student should agree they would like your help.
- After a brief search, “find” the missing piece in the spot in which you hid it before the lesson began.
- When the puzzle is done, praise the student for asking for help, reminding them that they would not have been able to finish the puzzle without telling you a piece was missing.



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