



Leader Tip Sheet

Classroom Pivotal Response Teaching (CPRT) is a naturalistic behavioral intervention developed based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). CPRT is designed to address common challenges in ASD, including **engagement & motivation**, **generalization**, and **social communication & initiations**. To support teacher use of CPRT, we recommend to begin by acknowledging teacher use of CPRT during classroom observations.

A teacher using CPRT proficiently will use all 10 of the components described below in one lesson. Additionally, each component is color coded with a star indicating the common challenge of ASD that is addressed with that component. If a teacher is struggling with a certain challenge area, refer to the items with that color star.

Component name and troubleshooting key

During observations, ask yourself, "Does the teacher..."

Get Student Attention

...get the student's attention before presenting an instruction?

★ ★ Present Clear and Varied Opportunities

...provide a variety of instructions that are understandable to students and at their developmental level?

★ ★ Include Easy Tasks

...give both easy and difficult tasks to the student in this lesson?

★ ★ Use Preferred Materials (and Vary Them)

...use a variety of the students' favorite materials and interests in the lesson?

★ ★ Give Choices

...provide choices between and/or within activities? For example, what they want to work on first, or what color pencil to write with.

★ ★ Respond to Student Interests

...acknowledge when student interests change within the activity.

★ Turn-take

...take turns with students to facilitate interaction between students and teacher(s) in the group?

★ Provide Contingent Rewards

...reward students immediately when they perform the skill?

★ Use Direct Reinforcement

...use rewards that are valuable to the student and related to the activity or the desired behavior?

★ Reward Attempts

...reward goal-directed attempts (good trying)?

Need other ideas? Ask a teacher to share:

- ✓ a full CPRT lesson plan
- ✓ fun ways they have incorporated single components into regular lessons
- ✓ ideas to make activities more motivating

Catch them doing good! Ways to reward teachers:

- ☺ Offer release time to observe one another implementing CPRT
- ☺ Acknowledge their CPRT efforts in front of their colleagues
- ☺ Ask the teacher to create CPRT resources for other teachers
- ☺ Offer opportunities to attend trainings or conferences