



TEXAS DEAFBLIND PROJECT

Sample Choice-Making Routine

James' Choice Making Routine

Activities	Scaffolding Steps	Phrasing to Use
Present choice board with preferred and non-preferred object	1. Tactile cue to gain James' attention and signal the start of choice making 2. Use hand-under-hand support to gently guide him to touch and explore both objects	"Time to choose."
Coactively explore each object	1. Allow James to independently explore both items. 2. Use hand-under-hand support to gently begin coactive exploration.	"Drum. Play drum." "Washcloth. Clean up."
Allow James to select preferred object	1. Initially watch for intentional behaviors that indicate preference (holding one item longer, or tossing non-preferred). 2. If no clear preference, try repositioning objects or offering them one at a time for further exploration	*Wait while James explores and makes choice.
Reinforce James' choice	1. Immediately reinforce by confirming his selection 2. Pause briefly to allow James to process his decision	"Drum! Let's play!" OR "Washcloth. Clean up!" (based on James' choice)
Engage with James in the selected activity.	1. Follow James' lead during play/interaction. 2. If James does not initiate play/clean up, use tactile cue to show him you are there and initiate activity allowing James to follow your lead.	
Present the finished basket	1. Present finished basket by tapping it to James' hand/arm. 2. Allow James to place choice item in the finished basket. 3. HuH guide James' hand into the basket to drop item in.	"Drum/Washing is FINISHED!"

**Attempt number 1 first, if unsuccessful after wait time, attempt number 2 and continue until the student is successful. Sign the words in parenthesis and verbalize the words in the quotations.

