TRI-STATE WEBINAR SERIES

Connecting Verbal Behavior Programs with Functional Living Skills from the AFLS

(Assessment of Functional Living Skills)

Presented by: Deb Rauner







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Tri-State Autism Spectrum Disorder Webinar Series



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Polling Questions

- Questions will be asked throughout the webinar
- When the poll opens on your screen respond by <u>clicking on</u> or <u>filling in</u> your answer

	What is your role?			
	What is your role?			
	O Administrator			
	O Parent/Family Member			
Related Service Professional				
	● Teacher			
	Other			
What stat	te are you from?			
What state are you from?				
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Kans	as			
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Presenter Information

• Deb Rauner, M.Ed., Currently an Autism Consultant and Verbal Behavior Trainer. Formerly a Special Education Teacher & Behavior Specialist





Learner Objectives

- > Participants will understand the importance of including functional living skills in an individual intervention plan.
- > Participants will become familiar with the Assessment of Functional Living Skills Guides that include protocols in Basic Living Skills, School Skills, Home Skills, Community Skills, Vocational Skills and Independent Living Skills.
- Participants will learn how to use planning tools to easily develop a program that incorporates functional living skills chosen from the AFLS.

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Presentation Summary

- This webinar will introduce participants to The AFLS Assessment and Curriculum Guides as an extension to a verbal behavior program.
- Participants will gain the knowledge and tools to track a learner's functional living skills and plan an individual intervention program to increase independence.



Ready, Set, Go!

- Let's get started on learning how to use The AFLS Assessment and Curriculum Guides as an extension to a verbal behavior program.
- All forms discussed will be available to you electronically.



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AFLS

Assessment of Functional Living Skills

Publication by Drs. James Partington & Michael Mueller at Behavior Analysts Inc.

Looking into the Future: Common Questions:



- -What will my son/daughter be like as an adult?
- Will he/she be able to help care for themselves whether at home or an alternative environment?

AFLS

Answer:

• How independent the child will be depends on how much the person is able to do for him/herself (functional skills).



AFLS

Functional Skills are:

- •Skills that are necessary to survive
- •Skills that If you don't do them yourself, someone else will have to do them for you
- •Skills that lead to some level of independence



Benefits of Teaching Functional Skills

- Take care of themselves/Help themselves
- Increase in self-confidence
- Improve living options
- Decrease need for support personnel
- Improve school/vocational placement
- Personal freedom and social opportunity



Partington: Behavior Analysts Inc.

Reason for Functional Skills Emphasis

A Case for Teaching Functional Skills (from TASH Newsletter)

- "he can put 100 pegs into a peg board, but can't put quarters into a vending machine"
- "he can fold paper into halves and quarters with an 80% success rate, but he can't fold his clothes"
- "he can put a rain symbol on the calendar when it is raining, but he still goes out in the rain without a coat"
- "he can put a cube in the box, under the box and beside the box, but needs help to put his garbage in the trash at McDonald's"

But I Don't Want to Focus on Functional Skills Because....

- It's easier for me to do it for you.
- •I can do it faster. I don't have the time to let you try to do it yourself.
- He/She can't do the entire task by him/herself.
- It's not safe (See cautionary statement in AFLS)





Remember:

Partington. Behavior Analysts Inc.

... that a combination of language skills with functional skills increases likelihood of successful participation in a variety of environments.

Therefore, teaching functional skills becomes part of our "best practices" instruction.



What Skills to Choose

Critical to select goals that are meaningful:

- * Meaningful to the child/youth
- * Meaningful for the family
- * Prepare child/youth for future environments (transition planning starts with the initial IPP)

One of the greatest "gifts" we can give to the children and youth we work with is PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE



There are limited teaching hours per day – important to make them count

Society of Treatment of Autism

When to Teach Functional Skills

- 1. When learners are young to throughout adulthood.
- 2. When learners are still participating in the ABLLS-R or Language Based Curriculum. (Vocabulary for ABLLS-R/language tasks can be from functional activities).
- 3. As soon as possible!

Where to Teach Functional Skills

Everywhere!

Need a blend of formal (intensive) teaching sessions and training in the natural environment



Polling Question #1

•Functional skills should only be taught to students in high school.

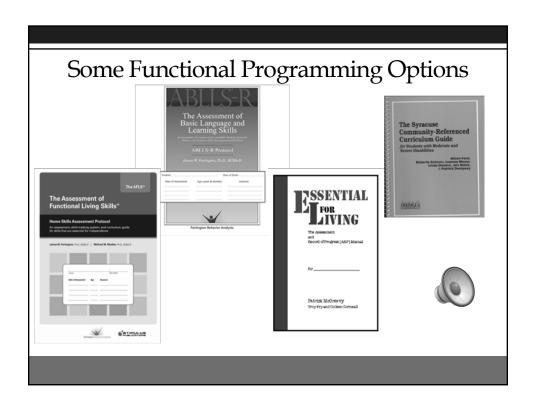
True or False?



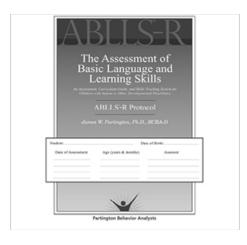
Answer:

• False: Functional skills can be taught at any age level but should be a priority for any student by age 12.





Functional Programming Option: ABLLS-R

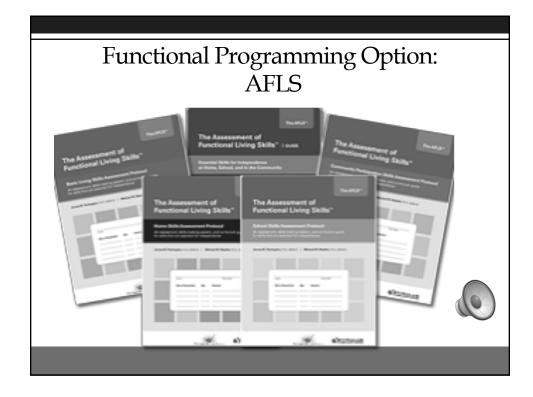




Functional Programming Option: ABLLS-R

- The ABLLS-R is a criterion-referenced assessment and curriculum guide for basic language and learning skills
- The ABLLS-R works on a variety of skills such as:
 - Early Language Skills
 - Early Developmental Sequences
 - Early Learning Sequences
 - Self-Help Skills
 - Learning to Learn Skills





WHAT IS THE AFLS?

- The Assessment of Functional Living Skills (AFLS) is a criterion-referenced skills assessment tool, tracking system, and curriculum guide.
- AFLS is used for teaching children, adolescents, and adults with developmental disabilities the essential skills they need in order to achieve the most independent outcomes.
- AFLS is the most versatile assessment system available and offers learners a pathway to independence.



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AFLS Components

- The formatting is similar to the ABLLS-R. It can be used to demonstrate a learner's current functional skill repertoire and provide tracking information for the progressive development of these functional skills throughout the lifespan.
- The AFLS contains task analyses of many of the skills essential for participation in a wide range of family, school, community and work environments and can be used simultaneously with the ABLLS-R.

Why Add AFLS to ABLLS or Other Language Based Programming?

- This developmental disabilities and autism assessment can be used with early elementary to adult learners.
- Identify a shift in focus from acquiring early language skills to acquiring functional living skills.
- Realization that a combination of language skills with functional skills increases likelihood of successful participation in a variety of environments.

Why the AFLS Works:

- Utilize Anytime, Anywhere The AFLS spans all areas critical to the development of functional living skills (Basic, Home, School, Community, Vocational, and Independent)
- Need Curriculum? Use the AFLS to
 Develop It! The AFLS supports and
 enhances any curriculum no matter the
 mandated curriculum the AFLS works with
 them all

Why the AFLS Works

- Easy to Understand Written in practical non-technical language; no certification required
- Simple to Use Complete with a Guide that provides step-by-step instructions with examples and methods making the system easy for all stakeholders



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Features of AFLS

There are currently 6 modules

- Basic Living Skills
- · Home Skills
- Community Participation Skills
- · School Skills
- Vocational Skills
- Independent Living Skills



AFLS Skills

- **♦Basic Living Skills: 225 Skills**
 - · Self-Management
 - Basic Communication
 - Dressing
 - Toileting
 - Grooming
 - Bathing
 - Health, Safety and First Aid
 - Nighttime Routines



AFLS Skills:

- **♦Home Skills: 251 Skills**
 - · Meals at Home
 - Dishes
 - Clothing and Laundry
 - Housekeeping and Chores
 - · Household Mechanics
 - Leisure
 - Kitchen
 - Cooking



AFLS Skills:

- **♦**Community Participation Skills: 259 Skills
 - Basic Mobility
 - · Community Knowledge
 - Shopping
 - Eat in Public
 - Money
 - Phone
 - Time
 - Social Awareness and Manners



AFLS Skills:

- ♦School Skills: 337 Skills
 - · Classroom Mechanics
 - Meals at School
 - Routines and Expectations
 - Social Skills
 - Technology
 - Common Knowledge
 - Core Academics
 - · Applied Academics



AFLS Skills



- **♦Vocational Skills: 464 Skills**
 - * Job Search
 - * Interview
 - * Basic Skills
 - * Co-Worker Relations
 - * Workplace Safety
 - * Fixed Activity Skills
 - * Custodial and Cleaning
 - * Laundry
 - * Retail

- * Support Personnel
- * Office Skills
- * Computer Skills
- * Restaurant Skills
- * Restaurant Kitchen
- * Warehouse
- * Tools
- * Trades & Construction
- * Landscaping

AFLS Skills



♦Independent Living Skills: 436 Skills

- * Organizational Skills
- * Self Care
- * Maintenance & Cleaning
- * Mechanics & Repair
- * Community Travel
- * Transportation

- *Kitchen Tools & Appliances *Living With Others
- * Food & Meal Planning
- *Interpersonal Relationships

* Money Management

* Independent Shopping

* Personal Management

* Problem Solving

* Social Interactions

* Safety

Additional Features of AFLS

- Divided into smaller sections within a larger topic section
- Can use sections as "units" for groups
- Some replication of specific skills that are in the **ABLLS**
- Choose skills that are pertinent to student
- · Safety Warnings within each module



Polling Question #2

Which of the following is NOT an AFLS Protocol Guide?

- A. Basic Living Skills
- B. Independent Living Skills
- C. Home Skills
- D. Sheltered Workshop Skills
- E. Community Participation Skills
- F. School Skills



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Answer:

D: Structured Workshop Skills.

Fixed Activity Skills are covered in the Vocational Skills Guide Protocol.

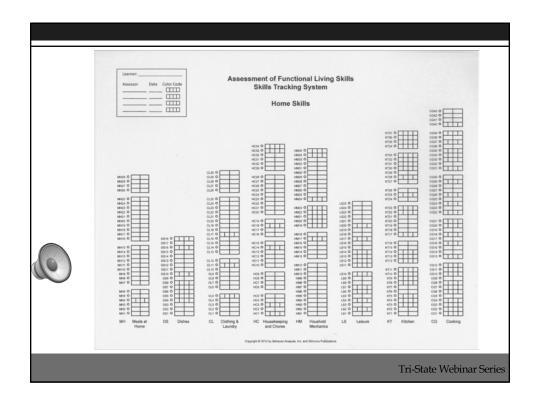


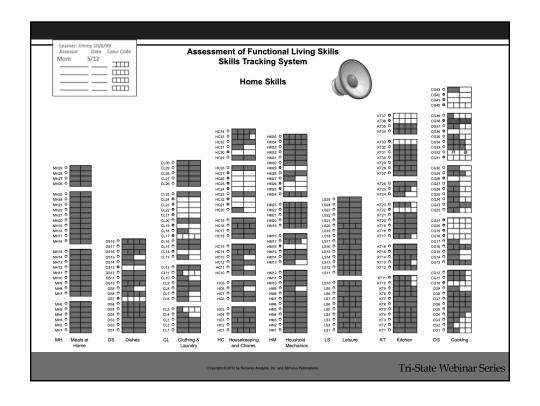
AFLS Grid Examples

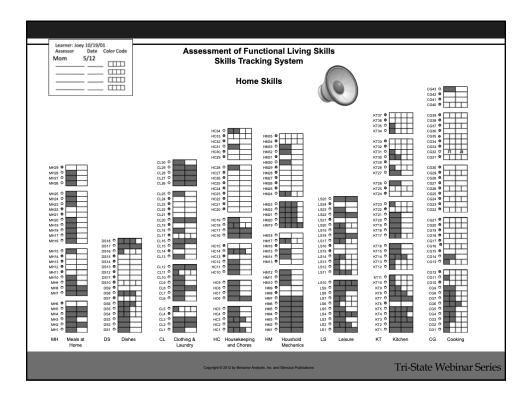
- How the grids look/work
- Comparison of typically developing student grid to grid of student with autism



		ontinued)					
	01234 01234 01234 01234		TASK OBJECTIVE Learner will floss between all teeth.	QUESTION Does learner floss teeth?	EXAMPLE	CRITERIA 4= flosses between all teeth, 3= flosses front teeth top and bottom, 2= flosses all teeth with only verbal prompts, 1= requires imitative model and minimal physical prompts to floss front teeth	COMMENT
GR 12	0 1 2	brushing process at least twice a	Learner will independently complete oral hygiene sequence twice a day.	Does learner complete oral hygiene sequence twice a day without being told?	Brush teeth, floss, mouth wash, etc. without being told	2= independently completes entire process twice a day, 1= independently completes entire process once a day	
GR 13			Learner will adjust water temperature on at least 3 types of faucets.	Does learner regulate water temperature using sink faucets?		4- adjusts water temperature on at least 3 types of faucets, 3- adjusts water temperature on at least 2 types of faucet, 2- adjusts water temperature on a faucet with only verbal prompts, 1- adjusts water temperature on a faucet with minimal physical prompts	
GR 14	01234 01234 01234 01234	face	Learner will wet, wash with soap, rinse, and dry face.	Does learner wash face using soap?		d- independently washes face with soap, rinkes, dries and self-checks in mirror, 3+ west face, washer, insees and dries who only weshal prompts to check thoroughness of cleaning, 2- requires only werbal prompts to wet, wash (but not fully adequate), rinke and dry face, 1- requires minimal physical prompts to wash and dry face.	
GR 15	01234 01234 01234 01234		Learner will blow nose.	Does learner blow nose?		4= independently gets tissue and blows nose as needed, 3= independently blows nose but must be bold when to blow nose, 2= requires only verbal prompts to blow nose, 1= requires imitative or minimal physical prompts to blow nose	







AFLS Teaching Methods

- While teaching methods may be different based on the existing skills of the learner, parents or instructors can either teach these skills as they naturally occur (such as getting dressed in the morning after waking up or brushing teeth after eating breakfast) or they can carve out time during the day to work on a specific skill.
- Verbal behavior strategies that look at teaching verbal operants (building blocks of language and learning) using errorless teaching in discrete trials are also an effective way of presenting AFLS instruction.

How to Teach Content

Taught using Behavioral Teaching Strategies:

- Discrete trials
- Reinforcement
- Pairing
- Error correction
- Errorless learning
- Prompting
- Shaping



How To Teach Content

- Putting task on card and doing it within intensive teaching sessions (using Errorless Teaching Procedure), workboxes/bags which mixes types and complexity of tasks
- Doing the task in the Natural Environment and tracking it on a NET Data Sheet
- Using a Task Analysis approach to teach larger skills
- \bullet Using prompts and shaping to teach multiple step tasks



Errorless Teaching Information

- Errorless teaching reduces student errors and allows teaching without mistakes occurring.
- Errorless teaching is associated with faster learning and less problem behavior during instruction.
- Errorless teaching involves the use of prompts that must be faded.

Two Types of Skill Items in Errorless Teaching

- "Known Items" means previously mastered items. Known items can be found on assessments.
- "Target Items" are those items that are targeted for mastery. Use Errorless Teaching with Target Skills.
- 80% of all trials in Intensive Teaching (IT) should usually be easy or known skills.
- 20% of all trials are usually target skills and/or correction of errors.

Errorless Teaching Sequence

PROMPT TRANSFER DISTRACT CHECK

- 1. Prompt Trial: We ask the question and then quickly prompt the correct response.
- 1. Transfer Trial: Ask the same question again, this time without a prompt. The purpose of the transfer trial is to fade the prompt.
- 1. Distract Trial: Ask one or two known items. These are used to place easy responses in the sequence.



1. Check Trial: Ask the original question. This serves to assess ("check") whether the student remains able to demonstrate the skill after some easy, known skills.

How to Teach Using a Task Analysis

Develop task analysis: Break task down into teachable "chunks"

- Ensure all parties agree on the sequence
- •Often helpful to role play steps to ensure the sequence is accurate
- Takes advantage of child's inflexibility/desire to follow established routines



Example of Task Analysis

- Making Toast
- Blank Task Analysis Template



Each task is made up of several small steps and if we break down complex tasks into small steps, an individual may be more able to learn to perform the task. Listing the sequence of actions or steps involved in completing a task is called task analysis.

The following is an example of a task analysis for making toast:

Task Analysis for making Toast

- Get bread from cabinet
 Open bread package
 Remove two silces
 Place bread in toaster
 Push down toaster lever
 Wait until toast pops up
 Remove toast
 Place toast on plate
 Butter toast
 Serve or eat

You might decide that some steps are not really needed because the individual you support already knows how to get the bread or how to wait. Or you might need to include even more steps. For example, you may find you need to add a step between 5 and 6 and have the individual get the butter and jam out of the refrigerator. That's the nice thing about a task analysis. You can make the analysis as detailed and as long as necessary. A task analysis for the same task might look different for two individuals based on their abilities and learning needs. A task such as making a phone call might have eight steps or 25. It's important for staff to build a task analysis based on how the individual might complete the task, not necessarily



	TASK ANA	LYTIC RECORDIN	G SHEET		
Worker:	Date:	Staff	h		
Job Site:	Task:				
	STEPS		TIT	1	Date
					+++
			+++		
				\square	
tal correct steps					
reent correct steps					

Task Analyses Resources

- http://www.ideas.org.au/uploads/resources/246/Tea ching%20Functional%20Life%20Skills.pdf (This is a great handout with tips for teaching life skills and examples of visuals)
- http://www.dds.ca.gov/DSPT/Student/StudentTer2 <u>6.pdf</u>
- http://www.ttacnews.vcu.edu/2012/08/task-analysisteaching-multistep-skills-made-easy/#more-421 Austin, K. M. (2011). Task analysis supplement. Richmond, VA: Virginia National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorders Summer ...

Polling Question #3:

Which statement is true?

- A. The use of discrete trials and errorless teaching procedures are **not** appropriate in teaching AFLS skills.
- B. Task Analyses are **not** an effective tool in teaching AFLS skills.
- C. Verbal Behavior strategies can be used to teach AFLS skills both in Intensive Teaching situations at the table and in the Natural Environment.
- D. Functional Living Skills are **not** a priority for most students.



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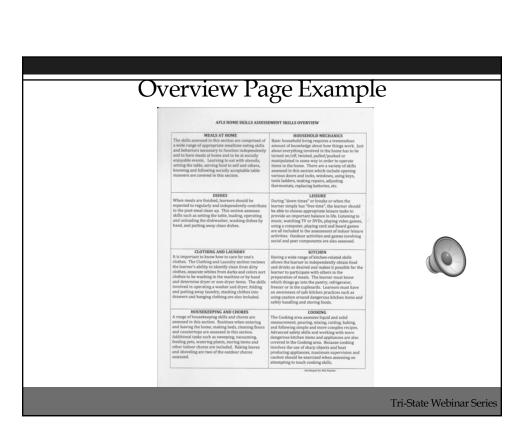
Answer:

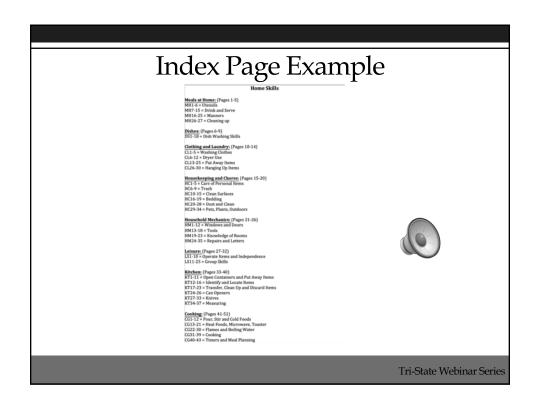
C: Skills from the AFLS can be taught using verbal behavior strategies both at the table as well as in the natural environment.

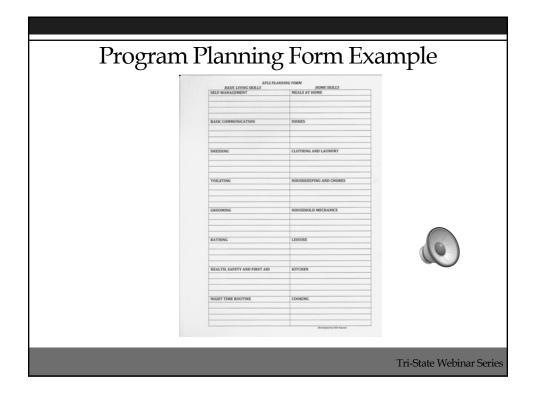


AFLS Organizational Tools

- •Overview Descriptions of Each Section in Each Module.
- Index for Each AFLS Module
- Parent/Staff Input Sheets for Each Module
- AFLS Planning Forms
- Blank AFLS Grids
- AFLS IEP Goals/Objectives Examples







AFLS Examples

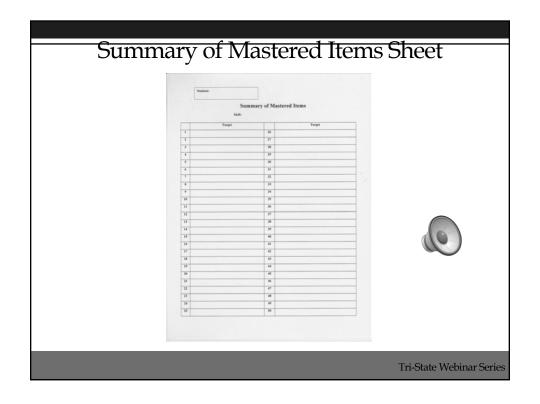
- •Example of data sheets (First Steps AFLS Plan Sheet, Skills Tracking Sheets, Weekly Probe, Summary of Mastered Items)
- •Schedule and Template



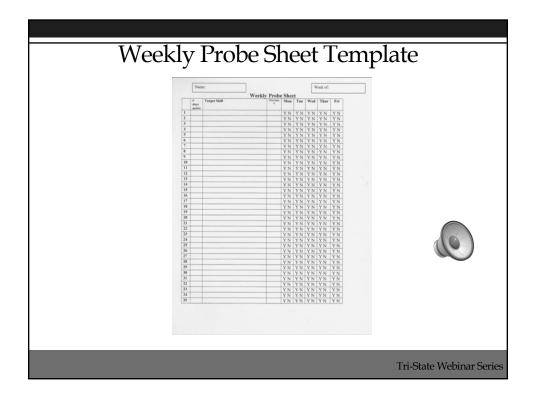
AFLS]	First Steps Plan S	Sheet
	First Steps on Planning a Verbal Behavior Program Using the AFLS (Stills may be Taught at the Table and/or in the Natural Environment) 1. Review Oreview of Stills sheets for each protocol. Let cargivers or parents review the Overview of Stills sheets appropriate. 2. Fill out the Imput Forms for the appropriate protocol, prioritzing skill areas to target. Let cargivers or parents fill out the Input Forms if appropriate. 3. Stee the Index to find the appropriate section of the protocol for the skill area to check for appropriate skill even and a get level. 4. Refer to the Colored Grid for the chosen protocol and skill area to check for appropriate skill even and a get level. 5. Select Target Stills from the AFLS protocol and put those on the AFLS protocol Program Planning Sheet, Jot down the AFLS task code on this sheet alone. 6. Begin assessment to Identify Known and Unknown functional skills in the targeted areas chosen (for example Laundry Skills, Washing Dishes, Cocquision Knowledge). Put Known tending Sheet Tarking Sheets or on Summary of Mastered Items sheets, according to functional skill area (Laundry Skills, Washing Dishes, on Skills Tracking Sheets on the Skills Tracking Sheet and write those on a Skills Tracking Sheet on the Skills Tracking Sheet and write those on a Skill Tracking Sheet on the Skills Tracking Sheet and write those on a Skill Tracking Sheet on the Skills Tracking Sheet and write those on a Skills Tracking Sheet on the Skills Tracking Sheet and write those on a Skill Tracking Sheet on the Skills Tracking Sheet and write those on a Skill Tracking Sheet on the Skills Tracking Sheet and write those on a Skill Tracking Sheet on the Skills Tracking Sheet and write those on a Skill Tracking Sheet on the Skills Tracking Sheet and write those on a Skill Tracking Sheet on the Skills Tracking Sheet and write those on a Skill Tracking Sheet on the Skills Tracking Sheet to those Target Skills chosen. Put those in a baggie marked Target Skills'. Choose pictures if needed and made a Skill area	
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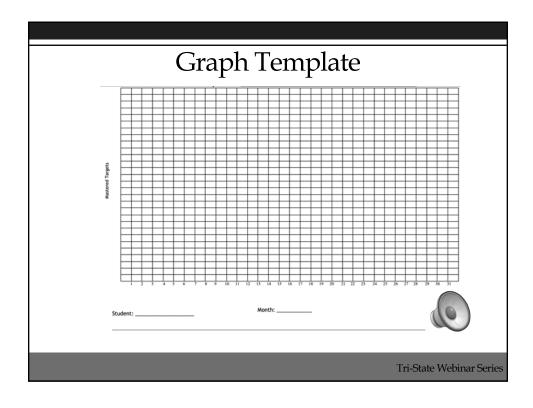
Examp	Example of Skills Tracking Sheet							
	Skill Trackin			,				
	st Name:Sam Skill: Labels picto	res of job items						
	Target	Date introduced	Date Mastered					
	Stapler	1						
	Copy Machine							
	Paper							
	Pencil sharpener							
1	Pencil							
	Dryer							
	Dryer sheet							
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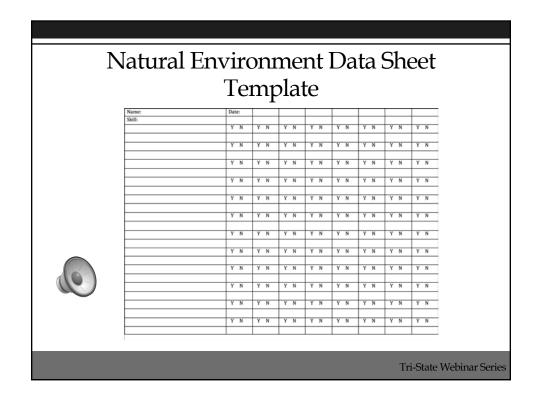
	Nan	se: Sam	_			reek of:		
	days	Target Skill	Probe Sh		Wed	Thur Fri		
1	active	Copy Machine: Label picture	V	N VX	VV	YN YN		
2		Stapler: Label picture				YN YN		
3		"I'm finished": Voc Imitation				YN YN		
4		Get bread from cabinet		N YN				
5		Open bread package		NYN				
7		Takes out 2 slices "What's your name?"		N YN		YN YN		
8		"What's your phone number?"				YN YN		
9		Follow Direction to get stapler				YN YN		
10		from counter Sort paper clips/pencils	V	NVN	VN	YN YN		
11		Sort paper cups/pencus Sort spoons/forks				YN YN		
12			Y	NYN	YN	YN YN		
13				NYN				
15				N YN N YN				
16				N YN				
17				NYN				
18						YN YN		
19	-			NYN				
20	-			N YN				
22				NYN				
23			Y	N YN	YN	YN YN		
24	-			N YN				
25 26	-			N YN N YN				
27				NYN				
28			Y	NYN	YN	YN YN		
29				N YN				
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31						YN YN		
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34			Y	N YN	YN	YN YN		
35			Y	NYN	YN	YN YN		



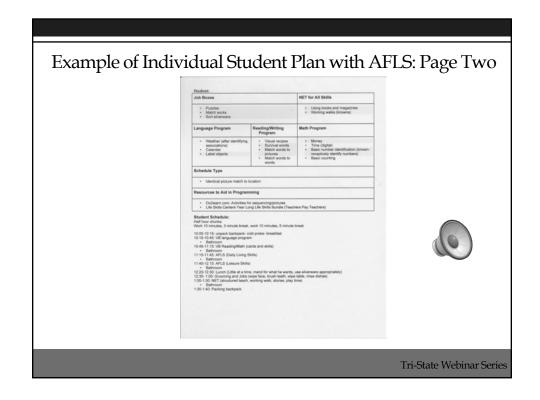
Skills Tracking Sheet Template								
Skill Tracking Sheet								
Target Date introduced Date Mantered								
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Example of Individual Studen (Highlights	t Plan with th are Priorities)	e AFLS: Page One
AFLS Skills taught in NET	AFLS Skills taught in VB Format at Table	
Basec Living Training - 1. 11.5 Anis to go to the bathroom Harma Balla Coless Coless - Col I. Retirement defines from the outplaced - DOS P. Advision or the definition - College and Landyge - College and Carean - College and Carean - RECE - Living or on regioner	Premote Desired Instity parties Senset. Living Bests. Living Be	
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Individual St	udent Plan w	rith AFLS Tem	nplate: Page One
	Student: AFLS Skills taught in NET	AFLS Skills taught in VB Format at Table	
	Social Skills Instruction		
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Individual Stude	ent Plan	with AFI	LS Temp	late: Page Two
	Student: Job Boxes		NET for All Skills	
	Language Program	Reading/Writing Program	Math Program	
	Schedule Type Resources to Aid in Pro	vamelos		
	Student Schedule:			-
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AFLS IEP Objective Examples





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Functional Living Skills Resources

• AFLS Curriculum Modules

- ABLLS-R Curriculum
- Essential for Living Skills Curriculum
- Syracuse Community Referenced Curriculum
- From the Classroom to the Workplace: Volumes 1 & 2
- Preparing for Life: The Complete Guide for Transitioning to Adulthood for those with Autism and Asperger's Syndrome
- Curriculum Resources: Menu/Market Math, Word List Stories, Reading Sequence Cards, Cook Books

Functional Living Skills Resources

- Life Skills Activities for Secondary Students with Special Needs (Grades 6-12)
- Self-Help Skills for People with Autism: A Systematic Teaching Approach
- A Functional Assessment and Curriculum: Volumes 1-4
- FACTER: Functional Assessment & Curriculum for Teaching Everyday Routines (Elementary & Secondary)

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Vocabulary Resources

- http://www.manythings.org/vocabulary/lists/c/
- http://www.manythings.org/vocabulary/lists/l/words.ph p?f=ogden-picturable
- http://www.k12reader.com/Fry-Words/fry_complete_1000.pdf
- http://www.k12reader.com/dolch/dolch_alphabetized_by grade_with_nouns.pdf
- http://www.eyeonthesky.org/pdfs/HighFrequencyWords. pdf
- www.enchantedlearning.com/wordlist/

Electronic Forms Available

- Task Analysis Template
- Blank AFLS Protocol Grids
- AFLS Overview Pages
- AFLS Index Pages
- Teacher/Parent Input Forms for AFLS
- AFLS Program Planning Sheets
- AFLS First Steps Planning Sheet
- Summary of Mastered Items Template
- Skills Tracking Sheet Template
- Weekly Probe Sheet Template
- Graph Template
- NET Data Sheet Template
- Individual Student Plan Template
- AFLS IEP Objective Examples



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Go For It!

Sometimes people think that planning a good program takes too much time. Planning a program that includes AFLS functional skills does take time but the outcomes are so worth it!



Conclusion

◆ The AFLS is designed to ensure that parents, caregivers and professionals provide learners with the very best opportunities to learn how to do tasks for themselves in a broad array of real world settings, thus achieving a greater level of independence and an improved quality of life.
Good Luck Implementing this Valuable Curriculum!



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References

 Introduction to The Assessment of Functional Living Skills (The AFLS)

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Walnut Creek, CA 925-210-9370 PartingtonBehaviorAnalysts.com

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- Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network: Autism Initiative Project: Mike Miklos & Amiris Dipuglia

THANK YOU!

Deb Rauner djrauner1@gmail.com





