




Autism and Wandering

Keeping your child safe!


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Overview of the Workshop


- Why
- Prevention
- Teaching Steps
- Skills Needed
- Practice
- Q & A






Every child is unique






According to CDC how many children are there living with autism in North America?

- a) 1/1000
- b) 1/150
- c) 1/100
- d) 1/68



According to CDC how many children are there living with a learning disability in North America?

- a) 1/150
- b) 1/100
- c) 1/70
- d) 1/6




According to a recent study in Journal of Pediatrics how common is wandering in children with autism?

- a) 50%
- b) 40%
- c) 20%
- d) 5%




Some more stats on wandering...


- 74% eloped from home, 40% eloped in a store, 30% from school
- 56% of families reported = **most stressful behaviour**
- 50% of parents reported not knowing what to do about it
- 40% of families report sleep disruption
- 30% of kids with autism who wander are unable to self-identify
- Recent Kennedy Krieger Institute study, Interactive Autism Network published in Journal of Pediatrics, 2011




Wandering could lead to...



- Drowning
- Strangers
- First responders
- Traffic injury
- Weather related injury



Wandering has lead to...



- Death
- Many cases reported in the media
- Interaction with first responders
- Traffic injury
- Weather related injury


 Why do children wander?









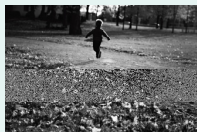
1) To Access Things/Places

 Why do children wander?



2) For attention

 Why do children wander?




3) To escape/avoid

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Why do children wander?

Different Children Wander for Different Reasons



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Prevention



SECURITYTAGS LOOK LIKE THIS.





They can be attached to a belt loop or hung from a necklase.





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Prevention



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 **SPECIAL APPLICATIONS**

Why do children wander?

Different Children Wander for Different Reasons





Figure out why and develop a unique plan



 **SPECIAL APPLICATIONS**

Why do children wander?

Often to fulfil a particular need



Figure out why and develop a unique plan



 **SPECIAL APPLICATIONS**

Where to Start?

- Teach responding to safety instructions






Where to Start?

- Teach how to Stay Safe in Dangerous Places





Where to Start?

- Teach asking Permission to Leave
- True test = add temptation





Where to Start?

- Answering social questions from community helpers
- Use pictures or text if necessary






Where to Start?


- How to recognize signs if you're lost






Where to Start?


- Who is safe to go to if lost or where to go if you're lost






Key Tips to Teaching

- You can't just tell a child, you have to:
 - Practice
 - Give Feedback






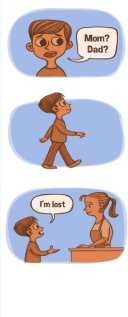
Behavioural Skills Training

4 main components:

1. Instructions
2. Model
3. Practice
4. Feedback





Instructions






Instructions





Different ways to break a skill down


- Observe a competent person engage in the task
- Ask an expert
- Perform the task yourself and record each of the component parts



Breaking a skill down

Write the steps in order:


- Bathroom
- Eat breakfast
- Get dressed
- Brush teeth
- Make bed
- Lunch in backpack
- Dress for outside



Breaking a skill down

Write the steps in order:


- Pick up toothbrush
- Wet toothbrush
- Get tube from shelf
- Take cap off tube
- Brush outside bottom row of teeth for 30 seconds
- Brush inside bottom row of teeth for 30 seconds
- Brush top row of teeth for 30 seconds



Exercise

In small groups write out the steps for


1. Put on glasses
2. Put on coat



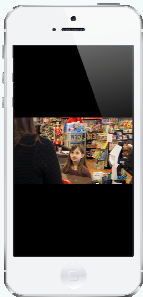
Behavioural Skills Training


4 main components:

1. Instructions
- 2. Model**
3. Practice
4. Feedback




Model







Practice

- Role play at home
- Set up a safe situation in a store
- Bring a friend to help
- Show the visuals and then separate yourself safely



Feedback






Let's Practice!


Using the visual provided practice using the steps to teach this with a partner. Remember the steps are:

1. Instructions (using the visual)
2. Model (show them or role play or watch the video)
3. Practice (Pretend you are at a store and are separated)
4. Feedback try one time with the learner getting it right and one time with them missing a step




Skills Needed

- Imitation
- Follow simple and 2-3 step instructions
- Attend to a model
- Tolerate distractions
- Discriminate when lost



Thank you so much!



Feel free to contact me:

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