

Following Directions

- Secure the student's attention before giving any directions by having the student maintain eye contact while you are speaking.
- Hold up one finger for each step of the directions as you give them. Have the student do the same.
- Break directions down into manageable steps – don't say all of them at once.
- Tell the student how many things you are going to ask him/her to do before you tell the directions. For example, "I am going to tell you to do 3 things. Listen."
- Have the student repeat the directions out loud after hearing them. This helps you to make sure he/she has received the information correctly, and it helps reinforce the information in the student's mind.
- Have the student focus on the important components/conceptual aspects of the directions. For example, "Color the little boy's shirt red". After giving the initial direction, repeat "boy, shirt, red" and have the student repeat it back to you.