

# Video Modeling: An Approach for Distance Learning for Students with Autism

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# What is Video Modeling?

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- Using video technology to provide a visual model of a skill or behavior (Cox & AFIRM Team, 2018).
- Video demonstration of a skill or behavior.
- Example: video photography tutorials.





## In other words...

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- Create a video of yourself, another adult, or another child doing whatever you want your students to do.
- For distance learning, you can upload the video to whichever online classroom platform you're using for students to view at home.



*Show, don't tell.* 😊



# Why is video modeling helpful for many students with autism?

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- Greater strength in visual vs. auditory processing (Cihak, 2011; Quill, 1997).
- Interest in video viewing/technology (Colby, 1973; Shane & Albert, 2008; Schreibman et al., 2000).
- Reducing stimulus overselectivity (e.g, McCoy & Hermansen, 2007; Stimulus overselectivity defined by Koegel & Koegel, 2006).
- Reduced social demands (Cihak, Smith, Cornett, & Coleman, 2012).
- Preference for looking at photos vs. in-person (Cihak, 2011).



# Why Video Modeling Can Be Helpful for Distance Learning



Many students with autism may not learn well from some commonly used models of online learning such as video lectures or lengthy written descriptions of assignments or activities.

So, we can use video modeling to provide a visual support...a simple, clear picture of what the student is supposed to do.



# Why Video Modeling Can Be Helpful for Distance Learning

You can make a really clear, simple video of a task you want your student to complete.

You can film a “zoomed in” view of the task, so there are no distractions.

This allows your student to focus specifically on the task (reducing stimulus overselectivity).





# What's great about this approach for distance learning is...

Note: I apologize for the lack of sound on this video during the presentation. I didn't realize that my video recording software wouldn't pick up the sound playing in the browser. You can watch the video here:

<https://youtu.be/dfDRGwerCEs?t=732>

You can make videos of fun/creative play activities, art activities, outdoor play opportunities, etc. to engage children in developmentally appropriate, meaningful learning opportunities.

It's a great way to encourage outdoor and creative play that kids can do at home.



# A few more tips for what to put in your videos...

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- Successful completion of the target behavior or task (Shukla-Mehta et al., 2010).
  - Can be:
    - Role-play social scenarios.
    - Steps in a task (such as brushing teeth).
    - Demonstration of how to do an academic task or project.
    - A video social narrative.
- Natural setting (realistic context).
- Minimize visual and audio distractions.
- Edit out any prompting or instructions.



# Additional Resources

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- Video Modeling Professional Development Webinar with Dr. Caldwell: <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Video-Modeling-Strategies-Webinar-4187033>
- Tinkergarten Creative Play Class Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeEw8oWf6oSSo3FOemUvOfQ> (or just search for “Tinkergarten” on YouTube)
- E-Learning Live Sessions with Early Childhood: <https://theautismhelper.com/e-learning-live-sessions-with-early-childhood/>
- Using Google Meet to Make Instructional Videos: <https://theautismhelper.com/focus-on-five-using-google-meet-to-make-instructional-videos/>
- Dr. Caldwell’s Website: <https://www.autismhomeschoolsuccess.com/>



# References

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