

**Positively Autism Online Training Course
Naturalistic ABA Methods
Course Outline**

<http://www.positivelyautism.com/training/>

Week 1:

Course Introduction

Introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

This week, we'll cover the basics of the course, how it works, how to access the course content, and the course structure. We will begin the content of the course with an introduction to Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). ABA is the foundation of the strategies we will be learning about.

Week 2:

Goal Setting and Data Collection

This week, we'll choose some goals that you would like your children or students to work on during the course. We will also go over some information out how to track progress toward these goals using data collection.

Week 3:

Background and History

This week, we'll learn how naturalistic ABA strategies were developed and the research that has been done about these strategies.

Week 4:

Pivotal Areas

What are the pivotal areas? We'll learn about these skills that, when taught, produce widespread improvement to new skills and behaviors that were not originally taught.

Weeks 5 and 6:

Motivation

We'll learn how to increase motivation for learning and incorporate motivational strategies into activities for students with autism. When we incorporate these motivational strategies, we often see large reductions in problem behavior and increases in learning engagement.

Weeks 7 and 8:*Reducing Problem Behavior*

During these two weeks, we'll look at effective strategies for reducing problem behaviors and replacing them with more positive responses.

Weeks 9 and 10:*Self-Initiations*

We'll look at ways to increase communication and social initiations in children with autism.

Week 11:*Family Involvement*

This week, we'll focus on benefits and ways to involve families in a naturalistic ABA program, including how schools and families can work together on an ABA program.

Week 12:*Treatment and Assessment in Natural Environments*

A natural environment is a place where skills may naturally be used. An example would be teaching social initiation skills in a preschool class verses in a separate room with only a teacher. Involving the child in natural environments increases the likelihood that skills will generalize to new settings, so we'll explore how to do that this week.