

# Classroom Pivotal Response Teaching



## About CPRT

Classroom Pivotal Response Teaching (CPRT) is a naturalistic behavioral intervention developed based on Pivotal Response Training (PRT).

1

Focuses on getting and maintaining student motivation

2

Implemented in day-to-day classroom activities

3

Fits with pre-existing curriculum and IEP goals across a variety of domains.

4

Data collection is flexible and can be gathered in both individual and group interactions.

## Structure and components of CPRT

Children with autism often need support to learn from the natural environment. Specifically setting up opportunities to learn and providing rewards for positive behaviors give CPRT interactions structure and help children understand what to do. They can then better learn to use these new skills in many different environments. The diagram below describes the pattern and gives an example:

### ANTECEDENT

While reading a favorite book, Teacher asks Student to count the pictures on the page.

What happens before

### BEHAVIOR

Student accurately counts the number of pictures.

How the student responds

### CONSEQUENCE

Teacher allows Student to turn to the next page in the book.

What happens after

There are eight components of CPRT that can be defined by the Antecedent-Behavior-Consequence continuum.

### ANTECEDENT

- Gain student's attention
- Use clear and appropriate instructions
- Mix easy and difficult tasks
- Share control
- Broaden Attention

### BEHAVIOR

Observe how the student responds

### CONSEQUENCE

- Use direct reinforcement
- Use contingent reinforcement
- Reinforce attempts

## What teachers say about CPRT

The training also helped me to 'think outside the box' in finding ways to motivate my students and get them to engage more in learning.

I think this program provides a fresh perspective on ABA as it simplifies the most effective evidence based strategies for teaching children with autism in individual and group settings and gives that to the teacher in a nice, easy to use package. CPRT would benefit teachers in all areas, including those teaching only neurotypical children!

"It is a natural way to work with students with Autism. I have found my CPRT lessons successful with a very challenging student, and I know if I continue building lessons and practicing I will be able to use it to reach more students."

