

Three Tier Consulting

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Discrete Trials Teaching

This one-day workshop will be highly interactive, with participants practicing basic teaching using Discrete Trials. By the end of the day, participants will:

- Understand the centrality of positive reinforcement in good DT teaching.
 - Learn how to present trials procedures correctly and consistently
 - Collect data during practice sessions
 - Practice an entire DT session with another participant

Participants will be evaluated and provided with feedback until they master of the basic methods of discrete trial teaching.

Concepts taught, modeled, and practiced:

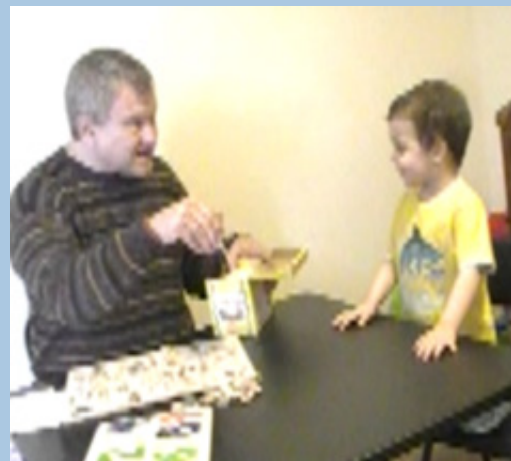
Reinforcement (SR), Reinforcement Assessment, Pairing, Instructional Control, Motivation, Discriminative Stimulus (SD), prompts, correction procedure, transfer trial, distracter trial, errorless learning, prompt fading, inadvertent prompting, prompt dependency, shaping, and chaining

What is Discrete Trials Teaching?

Discrete Trial Teaching (DTT) is an evidence-based method of systematic instruction based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). The Surgeon General (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1999) and the New York State Department of Health (1999) determined that ABA methods are the most consistently effective interventions for children with autism. Used along with other behavioral strategies, discrete trial teaching can bring significant improvements in communication and behavior for children on the autism spectrum.

“Little Robots, Treating People Like Animals, and Bribing Kids to Work”

Discrete Trial Teaching procedures have been criticized as being “mechanistic” or “robotic” and not very much fun for children. While this may be true for poorly-run programs, our goal is to engage children who are otherwise disconnected from learning. The key to effective DTT is to make learning fun while helping children communicate effectively. Many children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders need to start with a learning environment that is highly structured and predictable – a good match with discrete trials teaching. Since our goal is make learning fun, we spend a lot of time determining what each child likes (both learning materials and reinforcers). Sometimes we start with food items and “stim” toys, but as children progress, they shift toward social reinforcement. While DTT looks very “artificial,” ultimately, the aim is to help students learn in more natural, social contexts. Many critics of ABA have never seen the progression of children from initial DTT programs to typical learning environments.



We have.

Details & Registration

October 5th
8:30 am -
3:30 pm

October 17th
8:30 am-
3:30 pm

Location:

Ithaca-Tompkins County Chamber of
Commerce

Address:

904 East Shore Drive
Ithaca, NY 14850

Lunch will not be provided.

Location:

Watertown Ramada Inn

Address:

6300 Arsenal Street, 21000 NY St. Rt. 3
Watertown, New York 13601

Lunch will not be provided.

Cost

\$100 for educators and professionals

\$30 for parents of children with disabilities

For payment details and to register, visit

www.3-tier.org



About the Speaker: Dr. Michael Friga, Ph.D., BCBA-D is the founder of Three Tier Consulting, from Ithaca, New York. He received his Ph.D. in Educational Psychology from UC Berkley and is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. He taught as an assistant professor in education at the State University of New York; trained thousands of educators as a Special Education Resource Center Coordinator; and served as Co-Chair of the VESID Behavior Workgroup. He co-authored the New York State Quality Indicators for Behavioral Support. Dr. Friga has presented his research nationally at meetings of the American Educational Research Association, National Association of School Psychologists, The Council for Exceptional Children and the International Association for Behavior Analysis.