

National Center on Deaf-Blindness



Transition Activities

Special Events Planning

Topic:

Special Events Planning will help your son/daughter with people skills, particularly event planning, and community belonging which will have a positive impact on employment success.

Overview:

The purpose of this activity is to look at the entire school year and make plans to participate in special events that are offered at school and in the community. Each event is discussed, placed on a personal calendar, and anticipated in sequence. These events then are the impetus for planning, managing, and participating in preferred events and practicing all the sub skills they involve.

Events could include: dances, prom, ball games, homecoming, hockey season, county fair, community carnivals, open houses, volunteer day, arbor day, birthdays, graduation parties, anniversary parties, company picnics, spring break, etc. Consider technology conferences and conventions for deafblindness.

Outcomes for your child's transition development:

Your son/daughter will increase in his/her ability to function more independently in making choices and plans for typical events for his/her calendar of activities.

Activity Directions:

1. Make sure your son/daughter has a calendar or scheduling system that includes months August through July.
2. Coactively use a variety of resources to review event opportunities.
 - a. On-line: community websites, tourism websites, Facebook pages, web searches, school district website/calendar
 - b. Reminisce about events attended in the past to see if there is interest in attending again. Put those on the calendar.
 - c. Consider family and friend's birth dates.
 - d. Consider orientation days at colleges of interest.
 - e. Briefly discuss any planning or preparing each event would need:

- i. Purchasing new clothes
 - ii. Purchasing or making birthday cards
 - iii. Arranging transportation
3. Review the calendar at the end of each month for the next month's events. Here is where you want your son/daughter to get more specific about the detailed planning that needs to take place before the event. Put shopping plans on the calendar if appropriate. Help your son/daughter think in terms of a timeline to get ready for each event.
4. Your son/daughter participates in event, having contributed all the skills of which he/she is capable, and receiving the support necessary to participate as fully as possible.
5. Take photos and add to life skills booklet and portfolio.

Ways to either Simplify or Increase Complexity:

Ideas for Simplifying Activity

The simplicity is inherent in the activity through the amount of support necessary to make this a successful activity.

Ideas for Increasing the Complexity of the Activity

The complexity is inherent in the activity by increasing the child's responsibility for each step in planning and doing.



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