

COMMUNICATIVE TEMPTATIONS

(from Wetherby & Prizant, 1989)

1. Eat a desired food item in front of your child without offering any to him/her.
2. Activate a wind-up toy, let it deactivate, and hand it to your child.
3. Give your child four blocks to drop in a box, one at a time (or use some other action that your child will repeat, such as stacking the blocks or dropping the blocks on the floor); then immediately give your child a small animal figure to drop in the box.
4. Look through a few books (or a magazine) with your child.
5. Open a jar of bubbles, blow bubbles, and then close the jar tightly and give the closed jar to your child.
6. Initiate a familiar and an unfamiliar social game with your child until he/she expresses pleasure; then stop the game and wait.
7. Blow up a balloon and slowly deflate it; then hand the deflated balloon to your child or hold the deflated balloon up to your mouth and wait.
8. Hold a food item or toy that your child dislikes out near your child to offer it.
9. Place a desired food item or toy in a clear container that your child cannot open while your child is watching; then put the container in front of your child and wait.
10. Place your child's hands in a cold, wet, or sticky substance, such as Jell-O, pudding or paste.
11. Roll a ball to your child; after he/she returns the ball three times, immediately roll a different toy.
12. Engage your child in putting together a puzzle. After he/she has put in three pieces, offer him/her a piece that does not fit.
13. Engage your child in an activity with a substance that can be easily spilled (or dropped, broken, torn, etc.); suddenly spill some of the substance on the table or floor in front of your child and wait.
14. Put an object that makes noise in an opaque container and shake the bag; hold up the container and wait.
15. Give your child the materials for an activity of interest that necessitates the use of an instrument for completion (e.g. piece of paper to draw on or cut; bowl of pudding or soup); hold the instrument out of his/her reach and wait.
16. Engage your child in an activity of interest that necessitates the use of an instrument for completion (e.g. pen, crayon, scissors, stapler, wand for blowing bubbles, spoon); have a third person come over and take the instrument, go sit at a distance while holding the instrument within your child's sight, and wait.
17. Wave and say "bye-bye" to an object upon removing it from the play area. Repeat this for a second and third situation, and do nothing when removing an object from a fourth situation. These four trials should be presented following four consecutive temptations above.
18. Hide a stuffed animal under the table. Knock, and then bring out the animal. Have the animal greet your child the first time. Repeat this for a second and third time, and do nothing when bringing out the animal the fourth time. These four trials should also be interspersed with the temptations above when presented.