Attention Questions

Attention

• Operational Definition:
  • The child demonstrates that he or she has been paying attention to the ongoing activity by being able to answer correctly within five seconds a staff member's question about the ongoing activity.

• Notes
  • Multiple parts
  • Negative behavior
  • Takes precedence over Contributing
  • Reasonable and appropriate effort

Attention Questions

• Purpose
  • To teach skills and concepts
  • To prompt attention
  • To assess attention systematically

• Two types of questions
  • Standardized Attention Questions
  • Nonstandardized Attention Questions
Standardized Attention Questions

- Assess children’s response to behavioral and medication treatments
- Same number of questions every day at the appropriate difficulty level for the child
- Adjust difficulty level as children progress

Standardized Attention Questions

- Content
  - Must be the correct question for the child
  - Correct level (Basic, Intermediate, Advanced)
  - Correct wording
- Activity
  - Designated Game/Other Game
  - Group Discussion
  - Game Awareness
- Number (frequency)
  - 1 Group Discussion question (preactivity or postactivity discussion)
  - 1 Game Awareness question in Intervals 2, 3 & 4

Sport Leader Attention Card

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>GD</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>GA1</th>
<th>GA2</th>
<th>GA3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robert</td>
<td>Int.</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Int.</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Int.</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerry</td>
<td>Adv.</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Int.</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>James</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Basic</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+</td>
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</table>
Standardized Group Discussion Questions

• Ask questions about task-related statements made by children during the discussion.
• Use the exact wording written in the manual—Do not rephrase questions (e.g., “What was the last thing said and who said it?” or “What were the last 2 things that happened in the discussion?”)
• Do not ask questions following negative child behaviors.
• Know the answer before you ask the question.

Standardized Game Awareness Questions

• Basic Level
  • Basic knowledge of game principles
  • Ability to attend to the immediate action of the game

• Intermediate Level
  • Knowledge of game rules and procedures
  • Ability to apply knowledge in the context of the immediate action of the game

• Advanced Level
  • Knowledge of complex game rules and procedures
  • Ability to apply strategy in the context of the immediate action of the game
Standardized Game Awareness Questions

- Memorize the attention questions.
- Use the exact wording written in the manual
  - Do not rephrase questions (e.g., "Why was a rule violation called?" not "Why did I blow the whistle?")
  - Ask all parts of questions (e.g., "What is the score and who is winning?" "What team should get possession of the ball and why?")

Standardized Game Awareness Questions

- Ask questions before calling a play
  - Assess attention to the game, not Sport Leader's statement
  - Examples:
    - Ask "What is the score and who is winning?" right after a player scores a goal, before announcing the new score.
    - Don't ask "Why was a rule violation called?" after announcing that there was a hand ball in soccer.

Standardized Game Awareness Questions

- Ask questions at appropriate times
  - When play is stopped
  - When the game situation changes
  - Examples:
    - Do not ask a question while the child is running down the basketball court and should be watching the ball.
    - Do not ask "What is the score and who is winning?" prior to the very first pitch in a softball game.
**Standardized Game Awareness Questions**

- Ask when the answer is not readily apparent
  - Examples:
    - Do not ask “How should the ball be put into play?” when a player is standing on the side of the field, prepared for a throw-in
    - Do not ask “Who scored the goal?” when people are congratulating the player who scored.

**Standardized Game Awareness Questions**

- Make sure Advanced questions are really Advanced
  - Specific, strategy-related answers, not stock answers such as “we should have scored”

**Nonstandardized Attention Questions**

- Content
  - Any question at the incorrect level for the child
  - Any question not on the question list
- Activity
  - Any question asked during a non-game period, regardless of content.
- Number (frequency)
  - Any question asked after the standardized question in a given interval
Nonstandardized Attention Questions

- Assess and test children’s game knowledge
- Ask children to repeat skill drill instructions to ensure that children understand the instructions
- Ask when teaching new skills and concepts
- Increase frequency for children who have difficulty attending and understanding
- Adjust frequency and content for individual children

Nonstandardized Attention Questions

- Do not draw children off task during the activity
- Do not ask Nonstandardized questions in a manner that interferes with the Sport Leader
- Do not ask when a child has no difficulty attending to the activity or understanding concepts