Teaching autistic children conversational speech using video modeling.

Charlop, Milsteen (1989)

ABSTRACT

"We assessed the effects of video modeling on acquisition and generalization of conversational skills among autistic children. Three autistic boys observed videotaped conversations consisting of two people discussing specific toys. When criterion for learning was met, generalization of conversational skills was assessed with untrained topics of conversation; new stimuli (toys); unfamiliar persons, siblings, and autistic peers; and other settings. The results indicated that the children learned through video modeling, generalized their conversational skills, and maintained conversational speech over a 15-month period. Video modeling shows much promise as a rapid and effective procedure for teaching complex verbal skills such as conversational speech." (emphasis added by GemIIni)

SUMMARY & HIGHLIGHTS

Building on the work of Haring et al., Drs. Charlop and Milsteen showed that video modeling could be used to teach language skills. They also showed that children on the autism spectrum showed a 'robust' generalization of the skills acquired and maintained those skills after the trial finished.

The study also addressed the use of video modeling as a potential way to increase efficiency in therapy settings:

"Video modeling may offer a time-efficient and personnel-conserving teaching tool"

LINK TO STUDY

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1286179/pdf/jaba00093-0045.pdf