

## Examples of Task Interspersal Interventions

Two times per week, Stacie's remedial language arts teacher reviews her new vocabulary words with her using flash cards. Stacie often has difficulty with this task, as she will commonly complain, be reluctant to work, and avoid putting out her best effort, often saying "this is too hard". In order to improve Stacie's perceptions and attitude toward the task, her teacher made up a few dozen vocabulary words that either Stacie had mastered from previous weeks, or knows from prior knowledge. Each time her teacher reviewed her new words with her, she used a stack of approximately 10 words, with the target vocab words on the front and the definition on the back. Each time she reviewed the stack with Stacie, she interspersed 3-4 previously mastered word cards into the stack and reviewed the stack with her. After each time the stack of words had been reviewed, her teacher was careful to remove the previously mastered words, and replace them with 3-4 new words from the pool of mastered words. This way Stacie was always seeing new known words each time she reviewed a stack of target words.

Josh is having trouble staying on task while completing his math seatwork assignments. Typically, these worksheets consist of 15-20 problems taken from the day's math lesson. Josh's teacher altered assignments to intersperse shorter problems that Josh could complete easily. His teacher interspersed one easy problem after every third target problem while maintaining the same number of target problems (see worksheet below). She then monitored Josh's on-task behavior while completing the assignments.

## Sample Materials

*An example worksheet using task interspersal*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

$$\begin{array}{r} 1. \ 72896 \\ \times 430 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2. \ 52989 \\ \times 712 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3. \ 17389 \\ \times 407 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4. \ 3 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5. \ 62987 \\ \times 499 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 6. \ 72895 \\ \times 271 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7. \ 82380 \\ \times 329 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8. \ 8 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 9. \ 52272 \\ \times 233 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10. \ 63227 \\ \times 553 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 11. \ 72895 \\ \times 271 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 12. \ 4 \\ \times 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 13. \ 44322 \\ \times 511 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 14. \ 52862 \\ \times 453 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 15. \ 9 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$