Yes-No Questions

**Functional Activity Ideas**

- **Activities**
  - Take a walk. Go to the library, school office, hallway, an available classroom, lunch room, storage room, etc.
  - Use information from class. Provide answers to advanced curriculum material.
  - Ask questions related to student’s interests, including favorite movies, toys, television shows, etc.

- **Example Statements**
  - "Is that a book?"
  - "Are we in the cafeteria?"
  - "Are we in the speech room?"
  - "Water is a liquid." Pause. "Is water a liquid?" "Is water a solid like metal?"
  - "Do you like the Transformers?"
  - "Have you ever played soccer?"
  - "Do you like video games?"

**Receptive**

- **Methods of Criterion Elicitation**
  - **Answering Accurately** – Use pictures if necessary. Questions that are basic orientation or curriculum relevant may not require pictures. Some methods of adjusting difficulty are:
    - **Cues** – Provide information, gesture with head nods or hand shakes, sign language, written cues, etc.
    - **Consistency** – Use only yes questions or only no questions.
    - **Semantic Familiarity** – Adjust by using questions at or just above student’s individual level.
    - **Syntactic Complexity** – Modify tense, add phrases, negation, etc.

- **Expressive** – Asking yes and no questions is a skill that may be appropriate for advanced students.

**Goal Suggestions**

- Carolina will answer mixed basic orientation yes and no questions with 80% accuracy, such as “Are you in second grade?” and “Do you know how to swim?”
- Dakota will answer mixed curriculum relevant yes and no questions with 70% accuracy, such as “Does a thermometer measure temperature?” and “Is up the opposite of above?”

**Additional Practice**

- **Write** or type seven to ten questions at student’s level on a piece of paper with “helper” next to a blank line at the bottom. Send home, and provide incentives for a signed return.
- Enlist classroom teachers, aides, or resource room teachers for additional help. Tell them that you are working on providing accurate answers to “yes-no” questions. Often other professionals don’t even realize that a student may need help with this skill.