



Noah's Inclusion Services

GUIDED DIRECTION

Sometimes a child may be slow to do something you want. At these times, you need a strategy to prevent this from turning into active refusal to cooperate.

What?	How?	
Encouragement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child needs encouragement to get started, you can guide your child to do what you asked by taking his or her hand, gently guiding his or her actions, and then praising your child for carrying out the task e.g. - • If you asked your child to pick up a toy and there was no response, you can say, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “We will pick it up together”, take your child’s hand and guide it to the toy. ○ Pick up the toy with both your hand and your child’s hand, put it away and say, “Well done. You picked it up like I asked you to.” • As your child starts to do it, you can relax your grip on your child’s hand until he or she is doing it without guidance. If your child stops, start gently guiding him or her again. 	
Guided Direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While you are guiding your child to do what you asked, give only <i>Minimal Attention</i>). As soon as your child carries out the activity without guidance, be sure to give plenty of <i>Planned Attention and Praise</i>. This is the most important part of Guided Direction. 	
Resistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child is already actively resisting doing what you asked, Guided Direction is not appropriate, and you should <i>Wait for cooperation (if this is possible) or Minimal Attention (Don't React Choose What to Respond To)</i>. In this situation, Guided Direction can too easily turn into a physical struggle, which will only make the problem worse. 	