

12 Teletherapy Engagement Tips For Engaging Students with Complex Needs

Quick Glance

1. Provide parent/helpers with clear expectation of session and partner participation
2. Limit conversation with caregiver as to not distract from the individual during their session, if doing direct services
3. Limit distractions, including other conversations in the room
4. Have a reinforcement visual for parent/helper to follow your prompts
5. Make sure to include motivating tasks. Make it real, add some fun!
6. Have a predictable routine to your session (bookends)
 - a. Consistency to support focus on content
 - b. Consistency to support parent/helper's comfort level
7. Start with short ,successful bursts of sessions versus longer sessions, then build up to longer sessions
8. Stay positive! Use succinct language, and be explicit when supporting the parent/helper
9. Have a backup plan. Be comfortable using lite-tech. The goal is to communicate your knowledge & ideas
10. Use annotation tools within the video conference platform to support focus

11. Clean up your desktop and organize your documents to share prior to beginning session, to limit transition times and decrease visual distractions on your shared screen
12. It's a process. Meet the parent/helper where they are. Don't underestimate the power of asynchronous teletherapy supports, especially as a bridge sometimes to synchronous support



We are all in this together!