

Principles of attention & memory training for autistic children

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ABSTRACT

Autistic children have poor memory for complex information. They have poor working memory for spatial information of where something was located once it was out of sight. Their brain does not automatically identify and store key information that seriously impairs the capacity to interact, communicate and solve problems. Lower abilities in verbal working memory are linked to greater problems in adaptive behavior, more restrictive and repetitive behavior, behavior regulation, cognitive flexibility, abstract thinking, and focusing and sustaining attention. This workshop aims to clarify the nature of memory problems that may underlie aspects of the autism disorder and draw the outlines of the principles of training of memory & attention that can be added to the management of the disorder