

SUCCESSIVE APPROXIMATIONS WORKSHEET

To promote desired behavior, use successive approximations.

It is typically necessary to teach approximations of the desired behavior to move **from** the **Replacement Behavior** to the **Desired Behavior**.

- Modify the task through the progression to match instruction/skill level.
- Build on small steps of success towards the desired behavior.
- Focus skill instruction to progressively build skills required to perform necessary skills.
- Progressive reinforcement to encourage student to increasingly engage in desired behavior.
- With fluency, student is reinforced by “natural” reward.
- Use function of behavior as a guide

Successive Approximation from the Replacement Behavior to the Desired Behavior



Desired Behavior: _____

Approximation #3: _____

Approximation #2: _____

Approximation #1: _____

Replacement Behavior: _____

EXAMPLES OF SUCCESSIVE APPROXIMATIONS

EXAMPLE #1

When presented with a multi-digit multiplication or division math worksheets, the student makes faces and inappropriate comments to escape difficult math tasks.

Desired Behavior	Complete multi-digit math problems independently.
Approximation #3	Ask for teacher help.
Approximation #2	With permission, student can cross off 40% of difficult items.
Approximation #1	Ask for break using only 3 break tokens per period.
Replacement Behavior	Ask for a break from difficult double digit tasks

EXAMPLE #2

When presented with independent reading & worksheets, the student gets out of his seat, talks to peers, and makes loud animal noises to gain peer attention.

Desired Behavior	Independently complete task and obtain peer attention during natural opportunities.
Approximation #3	Complete 80% of task independently before working with a peer.
Approximation #2	Complete 40% of task to work with peer.
Approximation #1	Ask for peer break using only 3 break tokens per period.
Replacement Behavior	Ask for "peer break."

[Adapted From Basic FBA to BSP, Module 5](#)