

Introduction to Provided **EARLY INTERVENTION**

What is unique about TEIS-provided Early Intervention?

Each TEIS therapist is exceptional in their own right but you'll find that out first hand. As a company, TEIS' mission is to empower all those whose lives we touch to reach their full potential. Your child's success starts with the assignment of a therapist who is up-to-date on the latest methods of providing Early Intervention. This doesn't mean sitting in front of a computer and reading through an online course; TEIS therapists are encouraged to attend classes and conferences, and are supervised in the field to ensure their techniques and programs are effective. With your permission, your TEIS therapist will also communicate with your child's primary care physician to guarantee that all health care professionals are in sync.

How does TEIS run an Early Intervention session?

If you are familiar with outpatient therapy you will immediately notice how Early Intervention differs. During outpatient therapy your child is treated one-on-one in a clinic, at an appointment time that is available on the clinic's calendar; you are not encouraged to participate in your child's session. "Homework" does not necessarily fit into your family's routines.

TEIS will facilitate the sessions, not run them. We will partner with you and other family members wherever and whenever it is convenient for you. TEIS therapists will ask you about your daily routines, challenges and stresses. Together you and your therapist will come up with ways in which to help your child that are fun and productive. You will have an opportunity to practice new techniques your therapist models for you so that you can continue to work with your child between sessions. You won't need any special equipment – just toys and objects found in your child's natural environment.

Why does my TEIS therapist ask so many questions?

We know you are the expert on your child! You know your child's likes and dislikes, and how to motivate him/her. Your therapist wants to understand and build the relationship between you and your child. We want to make sure our suggestions work for you, and that you are able to carry over strategies between sessions.

Don't be afraid to bombard your therapist with questions as well. We want you to have the confidence to advocate for your child at all times!



What is a daily routine?

Daily routines are activities that you can or may do every day with your child, some of which are just for entertainment and some of which are necessary. Examples include diaper changes, meal preparation, meal time, tooth brushing, running errands, hitting the playground, bath time, getting in and out of a car seat, walking to get the mail, going to the grocery store, taking a stroll outside, and relaxing in front of the television.

Early Intervention uses daily routines as the foundation for plan development. Our intention is not to create additional work for you but to use the tasks and activities that comprise your day to help you help your child.

How do the routines practiced during a session help my child and family?

Research shows that during the first three years of life a child's brain is the most flexible and receptive and that every experience contributes to cognition (learning), language, behavior and health. Each routine provides an opportunity for you to help your child positively impact their overall development.

Suppose your therapist provides a suggestion to be completed during diaper changes. Your child soils his/her diaper 6 times a day. That means if you adapt that suggestion into your child's daily routine, you will reinforce the "new routine" 42 times during the week! It is no wonder you and your child's other primary caregivers are the most important people in your child's life!

Another benefit of active participation in your child's therapy, both during and between sessions, is that you become more knowledgeable about your child's developmental strengths and challenges. This knowledge is reported to reduce parent/caregiver and family relationship stress and frustration.

How do I remember what to do between sessions?

TEIS therapists will provide you with a variety of tools to remind you of what was done during the session. A copy of the session note you sign at the end of the session will be left with you. It contains a summary of what took place. In addition, TEIS provides you with a notebook in which you can write reminders, draw pictures, and keep a record of what was done when the therapist was not present. We also have other instructional cards like this that may be of assistance.



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