Parent-Training in a Public School for Children with Special Needs: Program Development and Continuous Improvement

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Abstract

Parent training is a proven method for the treatment and education of children with developmental disabilities. In this study, we have aimed to develop a parent-training program that could be provided by a public school for children with special needs. Our program included exercises for parents to teach their child the behavior that had already been mastered at school but not at home. Through the collaborative participation by the parents and teachers, the teachers could obtain parents’ needs at home so that they could then teach new behaviors at school that would be generalized at home. This unique interaction between parents and teachers lead to children’s learning, both parents’ and teachers’ satisfaction with the program, to the extent that the program has been continuously carried out by the school for four years after this study had completed.

Keywords: parent training, developmental disability, autism, school, teachers