

FORWARD AND BACKWARD CHAINING TECHNIQUES

Backward and forward chaining techniques are used to teach the child a task and to actively involve the child in the task.

Forward Chaining

The child begins with the first step of the task sequence, then the second step and continues learning steps of the task in a sequential order until he or she can perform all steps in the task.

Forward can be helpful for children who have difficulties with sequencing and generalising skills.

Backward Chaining

The adult performs most of the task and the child performs the last step of the sequence to receive positive reinforcement for completing the task. Practice continues with the adult fewer steps and the child completing additional steps.

Backward chaining is particularly helpful for children with a low frustration tolerance or poor self-esteem because it gives immediate success.