



CHAMPS / DSC Weekly Tips: Menu of Corrections

Menu of Corrections

Tips for Teachers and Coaches

Last week covered the pitfalls of corrections that we must avoid for corrections to be effective in changing future behavior. CHAMPS and DSC provide several ideas for early-stage corrections, as well as strategies for addressing more persistent inappropriate behavior. Corrections are most effective when they include “start” requests rather than “stop” requests, when they give some response time for the student to process the request, and when the desired behavior is described.

Early-Stage Corrections are corrections you use when first teaching a new routine or procedure, when first starting to teach CHAMPS expectations, and when address infrequent behavior errors. Some examples of Early-State Corrections are:

- Redirection
- Verbal and nonverbal signals
- Choices – not ultimatums
- Use “one liners” (describe the request)
- Time owed
- Restitution

Note: Reinforce immediately when you see movement toward the desired behavior.

Some other key points on correction include:

- The milder the consequence, the easier to be consistent
- What you use as a consequence is less important than the consistency
- When basic needs are not met, there is greater concern with fairness
- Teacher tension can often agitate crisis behavior
- Slow down your rate of speech
- Give the person space – stand 1 1/2 to 3 feet from the acting-out person
- Be aware of body stance – do not stand face to face, eye to eye, in a confrontational stance. Stand at an angle off to the side

One thing that can make correction of behavior more fluent is to plan out your responses to various misbehaviors. Attached with this week’s tip is an example of a Menu of Corrections, as well as a blank copy that you can use to develop a plan for your classroom. This planning helps you think about appropriate responses, increases your own consistency with misbehavior, and allows multiple adults in a room to be consistent as well. Keep up the great work with CHAMPS!