

Spectrum Center classrooms are designed with the understanding that all students can succeed academically, behaviorally and socially if their education, emotional and behavioral needs are met in an appropriate and supportive environment. Spectrum Center offers functional skills classrooms for students who are working toward greater levels of independence using an adaptive living skills curriculum while accessing grade level standards. Students who are enrolled in the functional skills classroom may have disabilities such as autism or intellectual disabilities. Spectrum Center uses evidence-based practices to build a positive, respectful culture that promotes social and academic success.

Educational Methods

Spectrum Center's functional skills classrooms focus on decreasing problem behavior while developing communication and social skills, academic skills, adaptive living skills, and vocational skills. Spectrum Center provides a learning environment that is predictable, consistent, structured and positive. Depending on the needs of the students, the following instructional methods are used:

- Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) instructional methods, such as:
 - discrete trial training
 - pivotal response training
 - functional communication training
 - teaching functional routines
- Classroom-wide positive behavior support
- Functional analysis of problem behavior to determine behavioral interventions
- Visual supports
- Direct instruction on grade level standards

Spectrum Center provides a comprehensive curriculum based on developmental milestones and/or living skills that are critical for increased independence. The curriculum involves repeated learning opportunities using both highly structured and naturalistic teaching strategies and focuses on generalization of skills across stimuli, people, and environments. Students access curriculum that is aligned to individual state standards

