

# Behavior Interventions: Anxiety Related Behavior

## Accommodations

### *Environmental*

- Provide safe space in classroom
- Schedule regular breaks
- Allow for breaks outside the classroom
- Arrange alternative lunch
- Arrange alternative recess
- Provide other areas of competence (specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Other:

### *Executive functioning:*

- Teach "reading the room"
- Use visual timer
- Narrate passage of time
- Use segmented clock
- Consider untimed test
- Use visual schedules
- Put organization time in schedule
- Present only a few problems or items at a time
- Preview non-preferred tasks in the morning
- Consider accommodated or modified homework
- Use of technology: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other:

### *Curriculum*

- Use pictures to help student think of and maintain a topic when they write
- Have student use word processing
- Consider spelling accommodations
- Other curriculum support: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other technology support: \_\_\_\_\_

### *Writing:*

- Have student use self-monitoring writing strategies checklist
- Use the rating system for writing (or other anxiety-provoking academic subject)
- Use "How I Feel About Writing" sheet (found in Chapter 4)
- Use of technology; \_\_\_\_\_

**Replacement Behaviors (examples for attention-motivated behavior)**

- Teach asking for a break appropriately
- Teach asking for help appropriately
- Use of Technology: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other:

**Teaching Underdeveloped skills:**

- Positive thinking
- Executive functioning
- Self-regulation
- Social Skills
- Use of technology: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other:

**Self-Regulation and self-monitoring**

- Have student use regulation scale (i.e. emotional thermometer)
- Prompt for "body check" cues throughout the day
- Have student develop and use calming box
- Have student use self-regulation chart: "what do do when I feel....."
- Have student use mobile device for self monitoring
- Use the self-monitoring sheet
- Other self-monitoring strategies: \_\_\_\_\_

**Self-calming instruction and practice**

- Have the student practice self-calming (specify how many times per day or week, and for how long)
- Use visual self-regulation list
- Use self-evaluation data sheet
- Use of technology \_\_\_\_\_

**Breaks:**

- Create data sheet to determine helpful break choices and if breaks are working throughout the day, or visual list to help the student make helpful break choices
- Use cognitive distraction break choices (decision based on data)
- Schedule breaks-noncontingent escape to prevent avoidance behavior (specify before, after, and during activity and how many per day)
- Create break cards or strategy cards for student to use
- Use of Technology: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other:

## Interaction Strategies:

### ***General Interaction***

- Use of concise language
- Apply noncontingent reinforcement
- Use leadership-building and self-esteem building activities
- Work on explicit relationship building
- Use validation
- Use of technology: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other:

### ***Catching Them Early***

- Respond to any sudden change in behavior with supportive response
- Use verbal check-in
- Use Thought Journals
- Use daily check-in sheet
- Use of technology: \_\_\_\_\_
- Other:

### ***Transitions***

- Develop Transition Plan
- Support abrupt transitions; use graduated transition strategies: \_\_\_\_\_
- Include transition warnings
- Include transition accommodations
- To support stopping
- To support cognitive shifting
- To support starting/initiating
- To support downtime/wait-time
- Include explicit instruction for transitions
- Use of technology:
- Other:

## Response Strategies

### ***For escape-motivated behavior***

- Avoid responses that would reinforce escape-motivated behavior, such as time-outs and removal from class
- Avoid requiring student to earn escape or breaks; provide breaks non-contingently
- Prompt student to use a strategy when student shows signs of anxiety

- Assign rewards or points when the student demonstrates a strategy, self-regulation skill, or a replacement behavior
- Avoid rewards or consequences based on consistent or set behavior criteria (behavior performance)
- Label the student's anxiety level when the student shows signs of anxiety
- Remind the student of previous success at calming
- Exposure: if a student exhibits low tolerance for work, start in small increments and allow escape from work (break) and build up workload slowly
- Use of Technology
- Other: