Global Education Therapy

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GET Help: "Why does my child have homework from speech therapy?"

THE IMPORTANCE OF CARRYOVER WORK

When learning new skills, the motor system collects "data," from past experiences and relates it to new similar situations. This is called a schema. When a schema updates with new information, learning occurs. (Maas et al., 2008).

WHY IS HOMEWORK IMPORTANT ?

In summary, carryover activities are given to continue to strengthen new motor plans learned in speech therapy. Completing carryover work, gives the learner a better chance at generalizing the skill out of the therapy room.

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PERFECT PRACTICE

If a learner doesn't know if they are correct, schemas cannot be updated. So, practicing in a variety of environments strengthens schemas. Incorrect movements allow for learning to occur.

Thus, "perfect practice" doesn't mean mistakes cannot be made. It means we understand a mistake was made, determine why then adjust parameters to avoid making a similar mistake.

CARRYOVER TIPS FOR PARENTS

THE MORE PRACTICE THE BETTER A little
practice every day is more tolerable and
effective than a lot of practice for one or
two days.
MISTAKES ARE ALLOWED learning occurs
when we can ID mistakes & correct them.
SPECIFIC FEEDBACK (e.g., "Let's bring our
tongue back behind your teeth") is preferred
over knowledge of results (e.g., "Good Job!")
GRADUALLY REDUCE CUES We tend to model
a skill, but it doesn't always give the learner
an opportunity to adjust the parameters on
their own

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