

Visual Schedules:

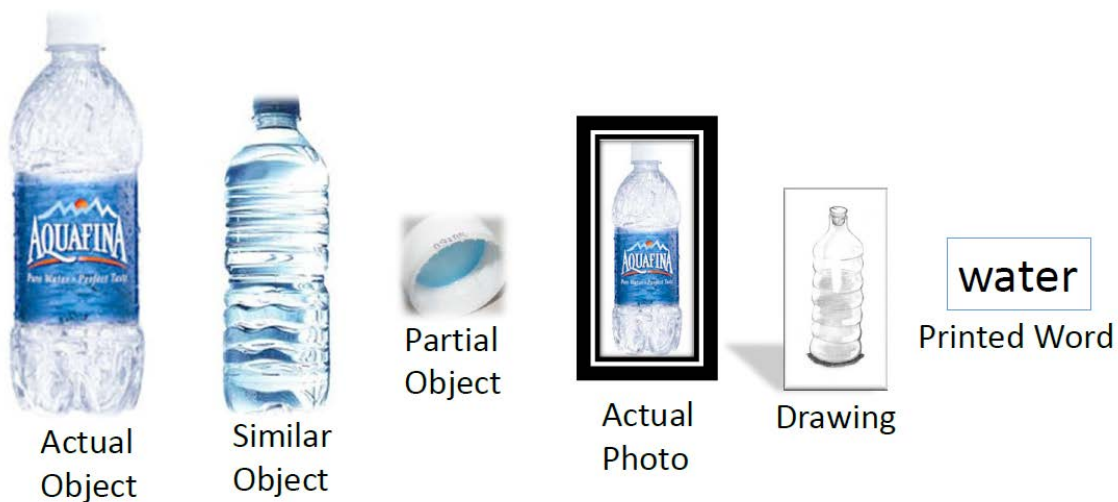
CONCRETE TO ABSTRACT

It is important that students understand the icons used on their visual schedule.

The icon tells the student what is happening next and allows them to prepare in the way they need. When choosing an icon, think about the activity that the icon represents. It is generally best practice to choose an icon that the student will use during the routine or activity.

There are different types of icons that may be represented on a visual schedule such as actual objects, pieces of objects, pictures, or words. It is possible that two students will use different icons for the same routine/activity.

The icon used should be based on the student's current level of symbolic development. This can be determined by asking the question, "Does the student best understand objects, photos, picture symbols, or printed words?" The more abstract the icon, the more difficult it may be for the student to identify. Objects and photos are the least abstract and therefore are usually a good place to start. In most cases, the printed word should also be included with the icon.



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