

## **The Efficacy of Behavior Momentum in Evoking Non-Echolalic Response in Children with Autism**

### **Researchers:**

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### **Abstract**

The purpose of this study was to investigate the efficacy of applying the principles of behavior momentum to teach non-echolalic responses to children with autism who frequently exhibit immediate echolalia. Behavioral momentum is the continuation and persistence of a behavior after a new or different condition has been introduced into the environment. Using a multiple baselines across behaviors and participants design, the researcher presented a series of verbal stimuli evoking high-probability echolalic responses before presenting a verbal stimulus evoking a low-probability non-echolalic response. Verbal stimuli presented to evoke the high-probability echolalic response were systematically faded until only the verbal stimulus evoking the low-probability non-echolalic response was presented. Results demonstrated that behavioral momentum can effectively teach non-echolalic responses and reduce the production of immediate echolalia.

### **Learning Objectives**

As a result of having viewed this poster, attendees will be able to:

1. Describe echolalic behaviors commonly seen in children with autism
2. Describe a technique based on the principle of behavior momentum used to teach non-echolalic responses to children with autism
3. Apply the principle of behavior momentum to teach non-echolalic responses to children with autism