



University of Kentucky
College of Agriculture,
Food and Environment
Cooperative Extension Service

Summer 2017

Teaching Tips

Pam Sigler, Senior Extension Specialist

Offering Choices

When you have a challenging person or group that you are trying to teach, consider offering them choices. Choices increases the likelihood that a person will engage with the task itself. Most people do NOT like being told what to do. Types of choices can vary such as:

- Use a reinforcer, earn something upon completion
- Choice between two options
- How the task is to be completed
- Where to sit when completing the task
- Whether help is desired
- Material that can be used
- Order in which the task is completed
- Funny things to wear while completing the task
- How they will get to a location

Remember that completing the task or activity is more important than how it is done. Make choices reasonable and easy to understand with clear directions and/or visuals.

PROGRAM & STAFF DEVELOPMENT • (859) 257-7193 • psd.ca.uky.edu

Educational programs of Kentucky Cooperative Extension serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, AND KENTUCKY COUNTIES, COOPERATING