

Tech Tip of the Week



Learning to Wait

Research shows that it takes at least 20 seconds for people without disabilities to formulate and respond to a question.

Applying this to people with Down syndrome and related disabilities, it would make sense that it will take longer than 20 seconds for them to formulate and communicate a reply. Why is it so hard?

Practice with a family member or friend. Ask a question and then start a timer for 20 seconds. It seems painfully long.

One modification/accommodation to consider for [a] child's IEP is for people to wait for a response rather than expect an immediate reply.

It is reasonable to expect to wait 30-60 seconds for a reply, particularly if it requires use of symbols or other assistive technology.

From: <http://www.disabilitysolutions.org> A Publication for Families & Others Interested in Down Syndrome & Developmental Disabilities