**Procedure for First Session**

1. Greet parent and child. Sit down and talk to the parent about:
   1. Child’s interests (i.e., toys, games, places, books)
   2. Concerns
   3. Goals
   4. Create a consistent schedule
   5. Brief overview of what your session will look like within the next few weeks
      1. Spend first few sessions pairing; building a relationship with the child by learning and observing the child’s interests, skills, and weaknesses.
      2. Set the expectations for the family from the start for their need to participate in the session with their child.
      3. Explain to the family that sessions will be delivered in a coaching model for the family and not just a 1:1 service delivery model with the provider.
      4. Explain to parent that you will use reinforcement to motivate the child which can be an edible, toys, social praise, or an activity. Assess parent’s level of comfort with giving food as reinforcer. Edibles will be faded to other forms of reinforcement as soon as possible.
      5. After building a positive rapport, you will start working on goals in the natural environment.
      6. Family should be included in your sessions as much as possible throughout the routines of their day. A combination of observing and hands on training should be provided.
2. Start interacting with the child
   1. Offer the child toys
   2. Take notes of what the child is able and unable to do
   3. Conduct your reinforcer assessment.
   4. Use observational data to assess the child’s expressive and receptive communication skills
   5. Ensure you are mixing and varying skills being worked on to eliminate too long of a sitting time. Alternate sitting, standing, sitting on the floor, movement to music, etc.
3. 5-10 minutes before the end of your session, start cleaning-up. Complete session note. Have parent sign. Take program book home to review.