

Type of Prompt	Definition	Example
Physical	When a therapist moves a part of the child's body.	A therapist provides instruction, "Touch the bird" and moves a child's hand to touch the picture. Fading: Gradually reduce the pressure used to move the child's hand. Proceed from a light touch to a brief gesture and no prompt.
Gestural	A nonverbal cue that may include nodding, pointing, or smiling.	A therapist provides the instruction "Touch the bird" and points to the picture of the bird. Fading: Move from pointing within an inch of the picture to several inches away, to a subtle point from a distance, to no prompt.
Verbal	Any vocal cue that may include words, sentences, or syllables.	A picture of a bird is placed on the table. The therapist provides instruction, "What animal?" and follows with the word "bird" Fading: Say, "bird", "b", and no prompt.
Visual (including pictorial)	Any picture or text	A picture of a bird is placed on the table. The therapist provides the instruction, "What animal?" and holds up a card with the word "bird" printed on it. Fading: Delete letters of the word. "bird", "br", "b", and no card.
Modeling	Any instance in which the therapist demonstrates the correct behavior or response.	The therapist provides the instruction, "Touch the bird" and touches the correct picture. Fading: Gradually reduce the number of steps modeled.
Positional	When an item is placed in such a manner that increases the likelihood the child will demonstrate the desired behavior.	Three pictures are placed in front of the child. The picture of the bird is placed several inches closer to the child. The therapist provides the instruction, "Touch the bird". Fading: Gradually move the target picture closer to the other pictures until the pictures are aligned.