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Focus of Mediation

Commentary to the film “Teaching FIE Basic”

The Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment – Basic program is designed to meet the needs of the **younger children** as well as the older learner who is **severely low functioning** and needs more fundamental approach. Early intervention is essential in preventing children from experiencing deficiencies in their cognitive, social and behavioral development. The effectiveness of the FIE-Basic program rests upon carefully implemented teaching process involving mediational dimensions of the tasks of the instruments and conceptual learning process. It is also important to think about the extent to which the teacher brings the following into each lesson:

- Teaching generalization or learning principle
- Determining concepts and processes necessary for completing the work
- Realizing and working with experience
- Establishing the important concepts and vocabulary
- Independent work on the page
- Discussing the work on the page
- Bridging the concepts, vocabulary, principles to the student’s broader experience (academic, social, family...)

In this video we can see the mediator building up vocabulary by multiple repetition and building up concepts. The teacher very nicely bridges – first to the closest environment in the classroom, then they go to the further world. The children are led to realize their experience and make use of it.

Focus of Mediation

One of the questions is to what the mediator directs the mediation toward in order to elicit cognitive functions and extend learning (on the page):

- Regulation of behavior – for example regulate and control impulsivity
- Sequencing – assisting the learner to respond in an organized and sequenced way; determining the steps to be taken, etc.
- Rule teaching – encouraging the learner to identify and apply principles and rules relevant to tasks; problem-solving strategies, etc.
- Insight – encouraging the learner to look beyond the immediate task and generalize

In this video we can see the teacher focusing on regulating behavior and sequencing.