



Peer Tutoring and Community-Based Instruction

Extending Learning For All
Students!



Peer Tutors – A Natural Link to the Community!

- Many peer tutors work in the community on a part-time basis and can introduce students with disabilities to their jobs or co-workers.
- Many peer tutors can provide assistance to students with disabilities in their job searches, resume development, etc.
- CBI provides important opportunities to model and learn social skills in new settings.



Students with Disabilities Also Link Peers to the Community

- Many students with significant disabilities are already familiar with their community and can teach the peer tutors about what is out there!
- Peer tutors often learn important community skills, including shopping, budgeting, and discovering new employment opportunities, as a result of their peer tutoring experience.



Using Peer Tutors in Community-Based Instruction

- Does your school provide block scheduling - this is important in assuring you have sufficient time to include peer tutors in CBI?
- Obtain parental permission for peer tutors to be a part of community-based instruction (to be able to go off grounds).



Scheduling and Logistics

- Only Assign As Many Peer Tutors to Assist in CBI as You Can Effectively Supervise
- Assure That Peer Tutors Fully Understand the Instructional Program and Data Collection
- Assure that Peer Tutors Fully Understand CBI Emergency Procedures



Before Conducting CBI

- Have peer tutors review with the student(s) what the student is going to do, what goals the student is working on, and what the student especially needs to focus on that day.
- Peer tutors should *not* get everything ready for the student – but rather support the student in becoming independent!



After Completing CBI

- Peer tutors can assist students in charting and evaluating their performance in the community (what they did well, what they need to improve upon) and deciding what skills they need to focus upon next.



Linking CBI to the General Curriculum

- If peer tutors and students with disabilities are in general education classes together, CBI can also be linked to the learning in that class (e.g., a library assignment for a research project, a comparative shopping assignment). CBI then becomes an *extension* of the general curriculum!