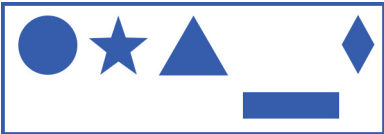




### What is Prompting?

**Prompting** is an evidence-based practice that involves providing a child support when they are learning a new skill or behavior. There are two categories of instructional prompts: response prompts and stimulus prompts. Stimulus prompts are changes that are made to materials.

Stimulus Prompts		
Prompt	Definition	Examples
Positional	Move the correct answer closer.	
Reduction in Field	Limit choices or options.	
Change in Materials	Highlight the correct response.	

### How do I use it?

1. Gain attention (e.g., “John”).
2. Give the direction with the stimulus prompt in place (e.g., “Give me the rectangle.”).
  - **Positional:** Move the rectangle closer to John.
  - **Reduction in Field:** Remove some of the other shape choices.
  - **Change in Materials:** Make the rectangle a different color than the other shapes.
3. Allow time to understand and process the direction (wait 3-5 seconds).
4. Provide a response prompt if no response or an incorrect response is given (see DNEA Resource Guide: Response Prompts).
5. Provide reinforcement directly after the expected behavior or skill being worked on (e.g., “Nice work John! You found the rectangle!”).
6. Gradually fade away the prompt over time.

Additional resource guides and a full list of references at <https://www.delawareautismnetwork.org/>.

Suggested citation: Mallory, S., Copeland, K., Dubin., A., & CDS DNEA Team. (2020). DNEA resource guide for professionals: Stimulus prompts. Delaware Network for Excellence in Autism.