An Inventory of Possible Reinforcers

Name: ___________________________  Date: __________________

Please read the following scenario:

Blake is a first grade student who struggles to keep his hands to himself during class activities and transitions. When the class walks in a line to the cafeteria or another part of the school, Blake constantly bothers the students around him. He pokes them, grabs their lunches and pushes them out of line. Blake causes such a commotion that his teacher must stop the class and remove Blake from the line of students. The teacher is concerned about Blake’s challenging behavior, and thinks he might be using the behavior to get attention. She wants to use positive reinforcement to help Blake keep his hands to himself and behave appropriately during class transitions.

Considering what you have learned in this lesson, what would be an effective positive reinforcer that the teacher could use to help Blake behave appropriately? Consider the following options, and then decide what you would do in this situation:

1. Allow Blake to lead the line of students during the next transition.

2. Let Blake have lunch with a teacher, principal or another adult in the building.

3. Allow Blake to sit by a friend during a class activity.

4. Use another positive reinforcer, or a combination of reinforcers.

Describe the behavior:

1. What does the behavior of concern look like when it happens?

2. What should the behavior look like (i.e., what behavior should you teach)?
BM-S3: Demonstrate the use of different methods to intervene proactively to change and maintain behavior

BM-S4: Ability to implement remedial techniques in academic skill areas with learners.

BM-S5: Ability to use materials designed for skill development in the social areas.

Describe the conditions around the behavior:

3. When does the behavior take place?

4. What specifically occurs before the behavior takes place?

5. How do people respond to the behavior after it takes place?

Consider the options presented for the above scenario:

6. Which of the options (above) would you choose to use to address the challenging behavior? What is your reasoning for choosing this option over the other options?

7. Would you apply this strategy before, during, or after the challenging behavior occurs? What is your reasoning for this?

8. Imagine that you need to tell another paraprofessional how s/he should respond to the challenging behavior described in the scenario. Describe in detail, step by step, how this paraprofessional should carry out the strategy that you chose to use.