

Sample of Visual Schedule



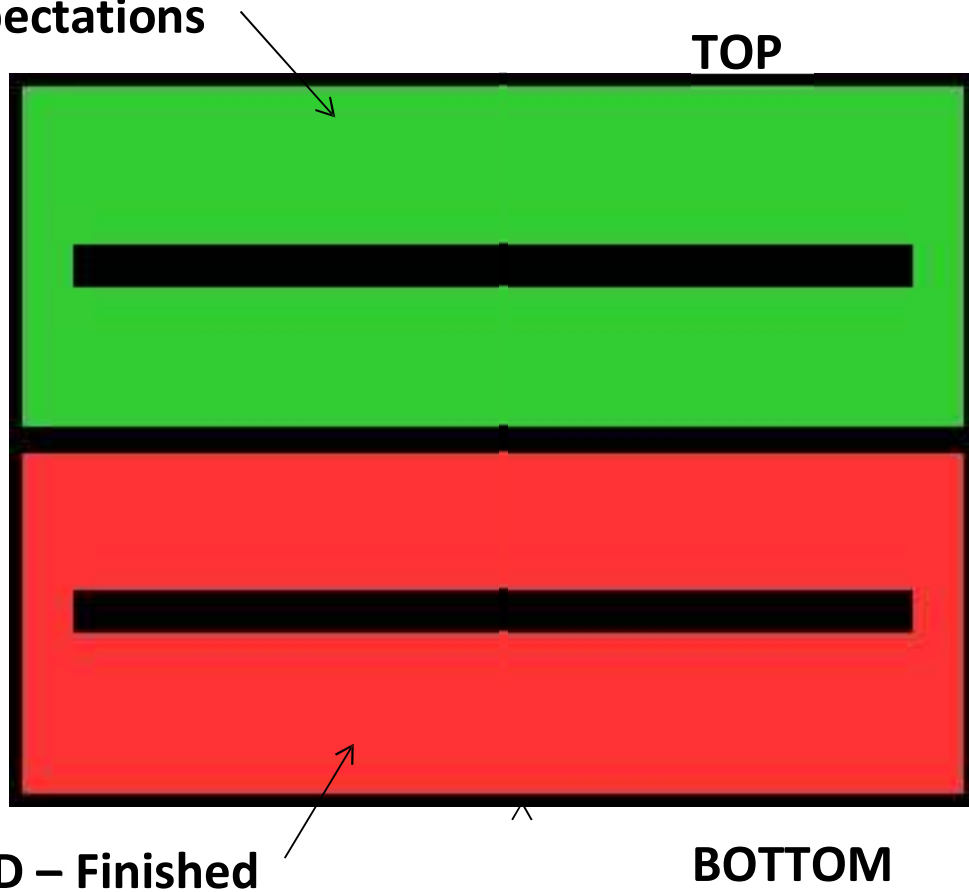
SD 62 uses the Green/Red Visual schedule. To make this schedule, we use green and red cardstock cut in half and laminated. We add a “finished” picture symbol to the bottom of the red and loop Velcro on both green and red areas.

For the Picture Symbols – print on cardstock, cut to size, laminate and add hook Velcro to the back.

Green/Red Visual Schedule

This visual schedule system is meant to be personalized for an individual student.
It should be used showing both green and red sections to the student.

**GREEN –
expectations**



Back – storage for PCS
(Picture Communication Symbols)

GREEN/RED Visual Schedule

The primary use of the visual schedule is to show the student what is happening now and what is going to happen next. Research supports the use of visual schedules.

The Green/Red visual schedule is a tool for staff to use with individual students. This visual schedule is a system that will help staff establish trust with students.

Basic information about a Green/Red Visual Schedule:

- The schedule is meant to be used open with green (current expectations) at the top and red (finished expectation) at the bottom. Sometimes the schedule will be folded for portability. When referring to the schedule with the student, open to have both green and red visible to the student.
- It is the responsibility of the staff to set up the schedule, adding pcs to the green. Students may be involved in the setting up of the schedule, however the schedule is still the staff's expectations for the student and **not the students' communication system**.
- The visual schedule represents staff voice to the student.
- It is the responsibility of the staff to carry the schedule and always have it in the students' view. Often as students become more invested and trust the system, they may carry their own schedule.
- It is the responsibility of the student, whenever possible, to physically move the pcs from the green area to the red area once complete. This is the students' way of telling staff they are ready to move on. If the student stalls or will not move the picture down, they may be trying to communicate that they are not ready. If this happens, staff may need to wait longer for the student to process the information or investigate the hesitance.
- The visual schedule goes **EVERYWHERE with the student** from the beginning to the end of their day.
- Together you must **refer to the schedule often**.
- Staff should be mindful of what they put on the schedule and leave room for changes in the day, unexpected behavior, the need for breaks and sensory regulation or time running out.
- Once a pcs is put on the green, **staff must always follow through** – the activity can be shortened to stay successful. This will demonstrate that you are going to follow through, and the student can trust in the visual schedule system.
- Use 3-5 pcs on the schedule at a time depending on anxiety level in the moment.
- Having a preferred activity to follow a non-preferred activity is called the Premack Principle (reinforcement of non-preferred activities). Even if difficulties occur within the non-preferred activity, it's important to work through this difficulty and continue to follow the visual schedule as it is built.
- Staff should move the finished pcs to the back of the schedule to keep the red section uncluttered.

Additional benefits of using the Green/Red Visual Schedule:

- lower anxiety
- smooth transitions
- teach new visual supports, strategies and concepts (such as "finished", "wait", "quiet")
- represent expected behavior, location or person working with the student at that moment motivate the student with First/Then activities - For early learners often a First/ Then card is used along with the Green/Red Visual Schedule. 'Then' is always a preferred activity.
- work toward independence
- teach completion of activities
- act as a helpful third party ("your schedule says we need to finish this first...then....")
- validate a want or need from the student – works hand in hand student's communication system
- proven to work hand in hand student's communication system
- The Green/Red Visual Schedule is a **system** that provides consistency for the student as staff changes
- Allows time for language processing. **Visuals are permanent while spoken words are fleeting.**

