

ABA RESULTS NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026

Parent Tip of the Month

WON'T OR CAN'T?

When a child doesn't follow a direction, it can be easy to assume they're choosing not to cooperate.

Sometimes, though, what looks like "won't" is actually "can't."

A task that seems simple may require several smaller skills.

For example, cleaning up toys can involve understanding the direction, knowing where each item belongs, shifting attention away from a preferred activity, tolerating the end of play, and completing multiple steps in order.

At ABAR, we look at the skills a child already has and identify what still needs to be taught.

Instead of asking, "Why aren't they doing it?" we ask, "What does this task require, and have we taught those skills yet?"



ABA Term

RESPONSE EFFORT

Some tasks require much more mental and/or physical effort than others do.

When something takes a lot of effort, a child may be less likely to do it, especially if an easier way or shortcut is available.

ABA Tools at Home

VISUAL SCHEDULES

Visuals, pictures, and written cues make expectations easier to understand and remember.

Try giving your child something to lookback on while completing their task!

Closures

SEPTEMBER 7TH – LABOR DAY

We at ABA Results wish you a wonderful Labor Day weekend!