### Ecological inventories

- Compilation of life skills needed by student in current and future environments
  - Difficult and time consuming to do
  - Checklists (one strategy)
  - Observe student in various environments and identify needs

### Discrepancy analysis

- the difference between what is required of a nondisabled peer in order to succeed independently in a particular setting and the current level of performance demonstrated by the student with severe disabilities

### Developing an ecological inventory

- Determine
  - Present and future environments
  - Subenvironments
  - Activities would take place in that sub environment
  - Skills needed to accomplish the activity

### Skills

- Immediate skills (current environment)
- Long-term skills (future environment)
- Identify skills that are performed by nondisabled peers in a variety of domestic and community environments

### Community

- Street crossing
- Using public transportation
- Purchasing in stores
- Eating restaurants
- Theaters
- Parks

### Domestic

- In and around home
- Self-care or 'activities of daily living'
- Clothing care
- Housekeeping
- Cooking
- Yard work
Leisure/Recreation
• Spectator
• Participant skills

Vocational
• Skills need to attain sheltered, supportive, or competitive employment
  – Job skills
  – Job related skills
    • Telling time
    • Getting to work on time
    • Taking a break

Cautions
• Not all skills fit tidily into one domain
• Many have application across more than one domain

Related skills
• Functional academics
• Communication skills
• Fine and gross motor skills
• Social skills

Tying your shoes
• DOMESTIC
• leisure/recreation?

Playing miniature golf
• LEISURE/RECREATION
Using a vending machine
- COMMUNITY
- vocational?
- domestic?
- leisure/recreation?

Ordering lunch at McDonald’s
- COMMUNITY
- domestic?
- leisure/recreation?

Cleaning the school sink
- VOCATIONAL
- domestic?

Catching the school bus
- COMMUNITY
- vocational?

Washing a load of white clothes
- DOMESTIC
- vocational?

Buying groceries
- COMMUNITY
- domestic?
Shoveling snow

- DOMESTIC
- vocational?

Walking to the movies

- COMMUNITY
- LEISURE/RECREATION

Ecological Inventories

- Systematically flexible
- Find skills that listed repeatedly across different environments and activities - these are the priorities

Conducting an ecological inventory

- Conduct student repertoire inventories
- Delineate skills performed by nondisabled peers
- Observe and record student’s performance
- Conduct discrepancy analysis

If student cannot perform skill

- Teach student skill
- Develop an adaptation and teach student to use it
- Teach student to perform different, but related skill