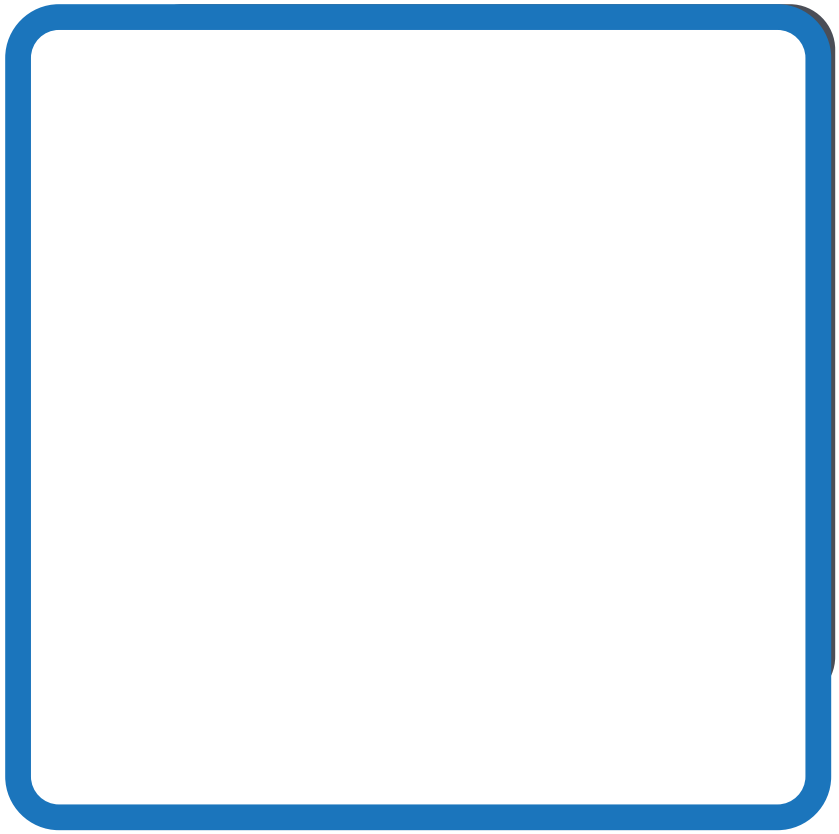
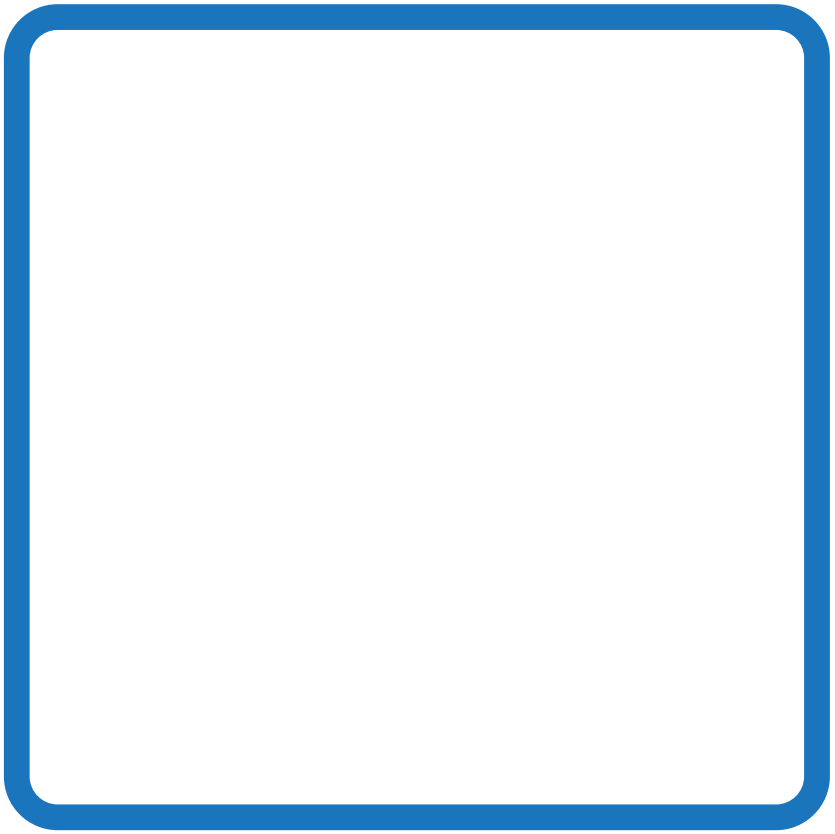
First

Then





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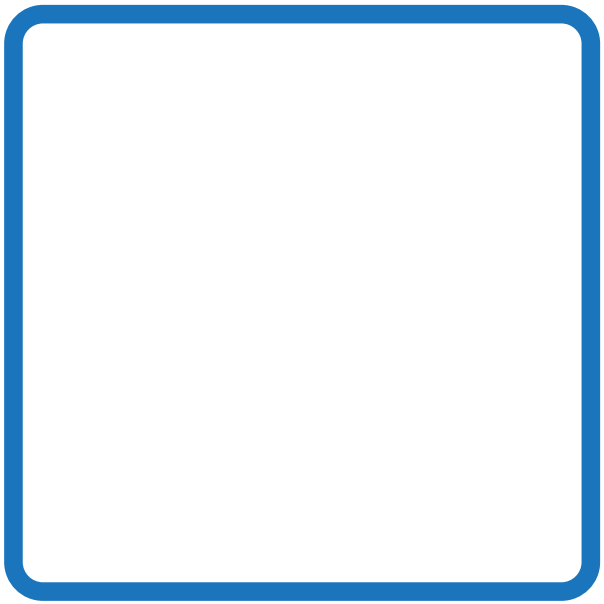
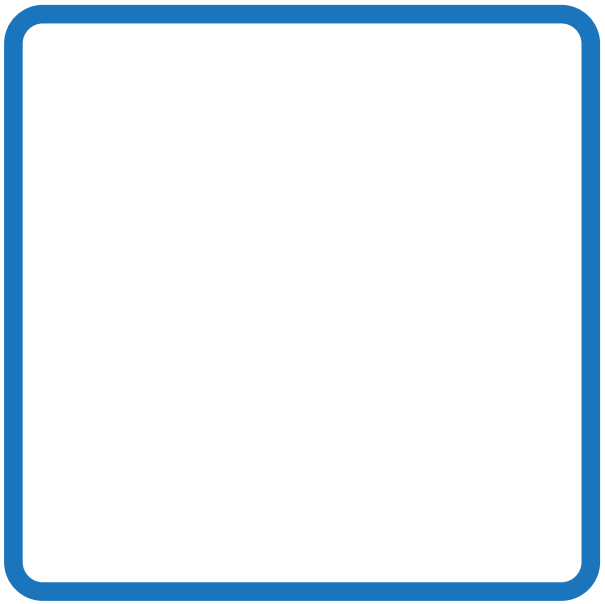
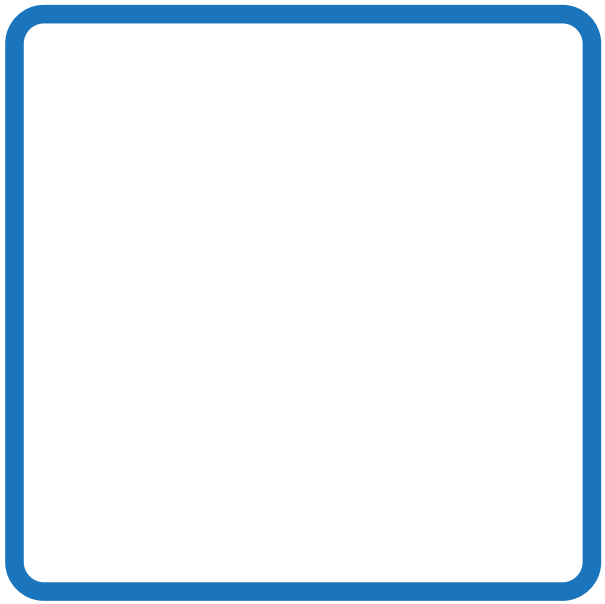
First → Then → Next







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How to Use a First Then Board

"First Then" boards are very commonly used in classrooms with a variety of learners, and are so effective that many educators use them as best practice for the whole group. They are very easy to implement at home too. "First Then" boards show a visual representation of an expectation followed by something preferred (e.g., first eat, then video game). Their main goal is to show that one activity (usually a less preferred one) must happen before the next (a preferred one) can occur.

The "First" box usually represents an expected action such as tidying up, eating a meal, doing homework, making the bed, etc.

The "Then" box usually represents a preferred activity such as a free choice, a break, a specific activity (e.g, iPad), or an object (e.g., Lego).

It is as effective using written words, hand drawn pictures, printed images, and/or a concrete object (such as a piece of Lego) on both the "First" and the "Then" box.

Ex.

"First, we're going to eat dinner together.
Then you can play on the iPad. First eat, then iPad."