Research-Based Practice: Task Analysis/Chaining

References:

Alberto, P. A., & Troutman, A. C. (2012). *Applied behavior analysis for teachers* (9th ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Cooper, J. O., Heron, T. E., & Heward, W. L. (2007). *Applied behavior analysis* (2nd ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson.

Description: Task analysis involves breaking assignments or directions down into simple, sequential steps, and then teaching the steps using forward chaining, backward chaining, or total task presentation. With forward chaining, you teach the first step, then the second step, and so on, until the student can put it all together and complete the entire task independently. With backward chaining, you teach the last step, then the second to last step, and so on until the student can complete the entire task without support. With total task presentation, you involve the student in the entire task increasing independence with whatever steps the student is ready to perform.