

Too Many Behaviors, Too Little Time! How to Prioritize Target Behaviors

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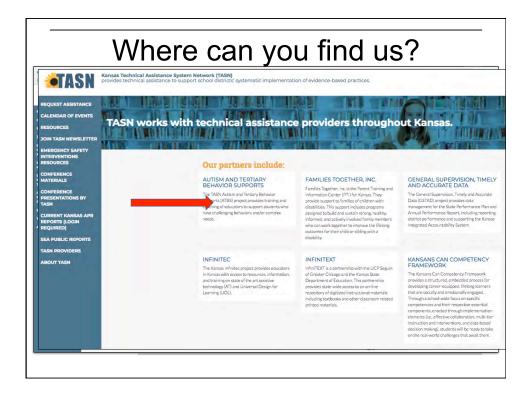


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D, 16 y/o male, has recently enrolled into my classroom and presents with the following strengths and needs:

- Independently scoops food with a spoon or fork. He independently pierces food with a fork.
- Can dress and orient clothing independently. Can independently put on slip on shoes.
 Makes requests of preferred items (e.g., food and drink items) using communication device, sign approximations, eye gaze, touching items, and guiding others to the desired item
- · Discriminates between preferred items
- · Independently navigates and uses his device when motivated
- · Follows simple, one step directives when motivated.
- Nods his head "yes" and pushes items away to communicate "no".
- · Greets others by waving.
- · Will participate in a structured leisure group activity with peers for 30 minutes.
- Can sort sort, match identical items to sample, and package up to two items.
- Can navigate to preferred iPad Apps once programmed onto a mobile device or a computer.

- Requires close supervision within the community for personal safety.
- Requires direct instruction and intensive teaching in the areas of functional reading and math.
 Requires hand over hand assistance to cut food with a fork and knife.
- Requires gestural prompting to wash and dry his body thoroughly.
- Requires hand over hand assistance to perform oral care activities.
- Requires hand over hand assistance to manage fasteners.
- Increase imitation skills
- · Use his communication systems to answer questions, label items, make non-food items requests
- · Increase productivity by working longer than seven minutes prior to needing a break
- Requires visual task analysis and prompting to complete domestic chores such as folding laundry, wiping surfaces, taking out trash,
- · Is dependent on others to provide meal planning, shopping, and preparing his meals.

D also presents with the following problematic behaviors:

Physical Aggression: Hitting with an open or closed fist, kicking, squeezing other's arms and digging his fingernalis into other's skin, biting, grabbing clothing, using his head to strike others, pulling hair, and any other behavior that could harm towards another person.

Self-Injurious Behavior: Hitting his legs with fist or elbow, kicking his leg with the heel of his foot, biting his arms, striking his knee to head, striking his elbows on hard surfaces, banging his head on hard surfaces, and any other behavior that could cause injury to him.

Skin Picking/Picking Sores: Using his nails to pick at sores, scabs, or bug bites. Does not include briefly scratching an area for 5 seconds or less

Property Destruction: Throwing items, overturning furniture, striking an object using his hand, and any other behavior that damages or destroys items.

Ripping Clothing: Using his hands or teeth to tear and destroy clothing that he is wearing.

Disrobing: Removing clothing at inappropriate times and places such as in public, or within the classroom. Does not include removing his socks and shoes, or removing clothing in his bedroom or in the bathroom when toileting or showering.

Food Stealing: Taking food from other's plates, eating out of the sink, counter, trashcan, or food off of the floor, taking food out of the cupboards/ refrigerator when it is not time to eat.

Elopement: Leaving his work area or designated environment without permission.

Inappropriate Urination: Urinating in areas outside of a toilet or urinal. Does not include urinating in the shower

Agitated Disruptive Behaviors: Yelling/Loud Vocalizations. Does not include happy vocalizations, such as "ooh, ooh".

Repetitive Behaviors: Includes throwing items away, removing items off of shelves that do not belong to him, moving someone's legs if they are crossed, removing badges and other accessories from others, turning off lights and shutting doors, and moving furniture that is not meant to be moved.



Where do I start?

· Prioritize target behaviors by asking nine questions that may help determine which behavior deserves attention first, and the order of the remaining behaviors (Cooper, Heron, Heward, 2007).







Does the behavior pose any danger to the student or to others?

 Behaviors that cause harm or pose a serious threat to the student or to others' personal safety or health must receive <u>first</u> priority.



Prioritizing Target Behaviors



How many opportunities will the person have to use this new behavior? How often does this problem behavior occur?

- Problem behaviors that occur with higher/greater frequency, intensity, and duration should be prioritized before other behaviors.
- Prioritize teaching new skills that the student will have greater likelihood of practicing. Ex. Packing a lunch or packing a suitcase.





How long-standing is the problem or skill deficit?

A chronic behavior problem (e.g., bullying)
or skill deficit (e.g., lack of social interaction
skills) should take precedence over
problems that appear sporadically or that
have just recently surfaced.



Prioritizing Target Behaviors



Will changing this behavior produce higher rates of reinforcement for the person?

 If all other considerations are equal, a behavior that results in higher, sustained levels of reinforcement should take precedence over a behavior that produces little additional reinforcement for the student.





What will be the relative importance of this target behavior to future skill development and independent functioning?

 Each target behavior should be judged in terms of its relation (i.e., prerequisite or supportive) to other critical behaviors needed for optimal learning and development and maximum levels of independent functioning in the future.



Prioritizing Target Behaviors



Will changing this behavior reduce negative or unwanted attention from others?

 Public displays or mannerisms may be highpriority target behaviors if their modification is likely to provide access to more normalized settings or important learning environments.





Will this new behavior produce reinforcement for significant others?

 Even though a person's behavior should seldom, if ever, be changed simply for the convenience of others or for maintenance of the status quo, neither should the effect of a person's behavior change on the significant others in his life be overlooked. Example: Karrie flushing the toilet



Prioritizing Target Behaviors



How likely is success in changing this target behavior?

- Some behaviors are more difficult to change than others.
- At least three sources of information can help assess the level of difficulty or, more precisely, predict the ease or degree of success in changing a particular behavior.
 - 1. What does the literature say about attempts to change this behavior?
 - 2. How experienced is the implementer?
 - 3. To what extent can the environment be controlled effectively?





How much will it cost to change this behavior?

- Cost should be considered before implementing any systematic behavior change program.
- However, a cost-benefit analysis of several potential target behaviors does not mean that if a teaching program is expensive, it should not be implemented.
- There are major court rulings that state that lack of public funds may not be used as an excuse for not providing an appropriate education to all children regardless of the severity of their disability.
- Cost consideration should include the student's time that the behavior change program will demand.

TASN Worksheet for Prioritizing Potential Target Behaviors 0 = No or Never 1 = Rarely 2 = Maybe or Sometim 3 = Probably or Usually Using a **Target Behavior** 0.1.234 01234 0.1.234 0.1.234 0.1 2 3 4 Ranking 01234 01234 01234 01234 01234 0.1.234 0.1.234 01234 01234 01234 01234 01234 Matrix 01234 01234 01234 01234

What behaviors would you prioritize?

Physical Aggression: Hitting, kicking, squeezing other's arms and digging his fingernails into other's skin, biting, grabbing clothing, using his head to strike others, bulling hair, and any other behavior that could harm towards another person.

Self-Injurious Behavior: Hitting his legs with fist or elbow, kicking his leg with the heel of his foot, biting his arms, striking his knee to head, striking his elbows on hard surfaces, banging his head on hard surfaces, and any other behavior that could cause injury to him.

Skin Picking/Picking Sores: Using his nails to pick at sores, scabs, or bug bites. Does not include briefly scratching an area for 5 seconds or less.

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Repetitive Behaviors: Includes throwing items away, removing items off of shelves that do not belong to him, moving someone's legs if they removing badges and other accessories from others, turning off lights and shutting doors, and moving furniture that is not meant to be moved







Example Worksheet for Operationally Defining the Target Behavior

Operationally defining target behaviors contain 4 key components: Label, Definition, Examples and Non-Examples. The definition, should be:

- 1. Objective: This means they are measurable and have observable characteristics.
- Clear: Should be distinct, explicit, obvious and clear so another person can read if and measure it.
 Complete: It should include language that directs the observer in all situations, leaving little to judgment (i.e., examples and non-examples).

Target Behavior: Give it a label.

Example: Off-task

Write the definition of a target behavior:

Example definition of off-task behavior: Attending to activities other than direct instruction or instructor-led activities.

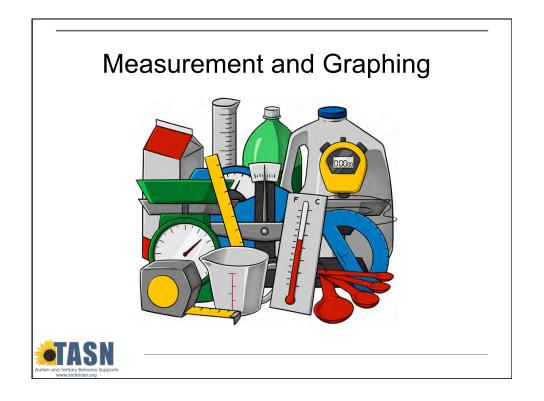
- Laying head on desk
- Fidgeting with non-instructional materials
- Talking to peers

- Attending to work assigned
- Using materials for instructional activities
- Following classroom talking level expectation

Example of Complete Operational Definition of Target Behavior:

Off-task behavior refers to atter ters to attending to activities other than direct instruction or instructor-led activities. This looks like the desk, fidgeting with non-instructional materials and talking to peers. Non-examples include signed, using materials for instructional activities and following the classroom talking level

	Student Name:	Date:	
	Person Completing the Worksheet: Rater's Relationship to Student: Behavior:	_	21
	Considerations	Assessment	Rationale / Comments
	Is this behavior likely to produce reinforcement in the student's natural environment after intervention ends?	Yes No Not Sure	
	Is this behavior a necessary prerequisite for a more complex and functional skill?	Yes No Not Sure	
Assess the Social	Will this behavior increase the student's access to environments in which other important behaviors can be acquired and used?	Yes No Not Sure	
Significance of	Will changing this behavior predispose others to interact with the student in a more appropriate and support manner?	Yes No Not Sure	
Potential Target	Is this behavior a pivotal behavior or behavioral cusp?	Yes No Not Sure	
Behaviors	Is this an age-appropriate behavior?	Yes No Not Sure	
Schaviors	If this behavior is to be reduced or eliminated from the student's repertoire, has an adaptive and functional behavior been selected to replace it?	Yes No Not Sure	
	Does this behavior represent the actual problem/goal, or is it only indirectly related?	Yes No Not Sure	
	If the goal itself is not a specific behavior (e.g. losing 20 pounds), will this behavior help achieve it?	Yes No Not Sure	
	Summary notes / comments:		



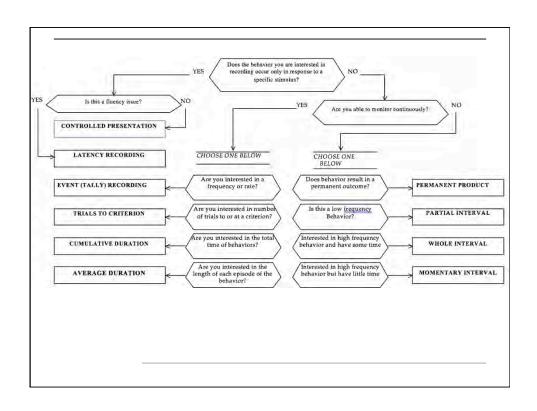
Data Collection

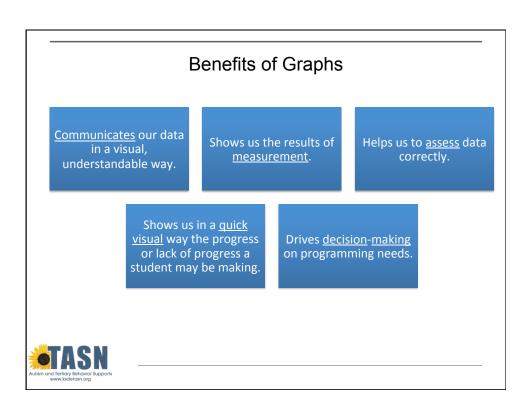
Must be...

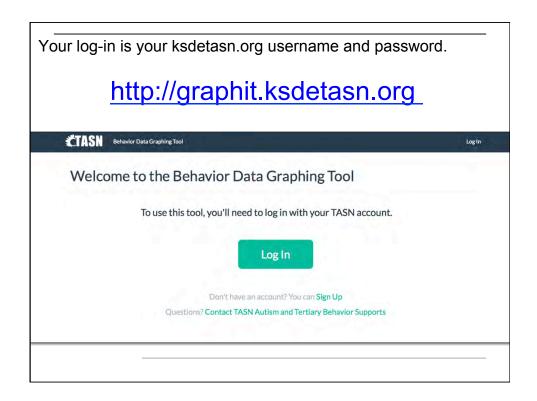
- <u>Accurate</u> Must accurately reflect what happened.
- **Reliable** Two people, same result.
- <u>Valid</u> Data collected must actually represent the behavior.

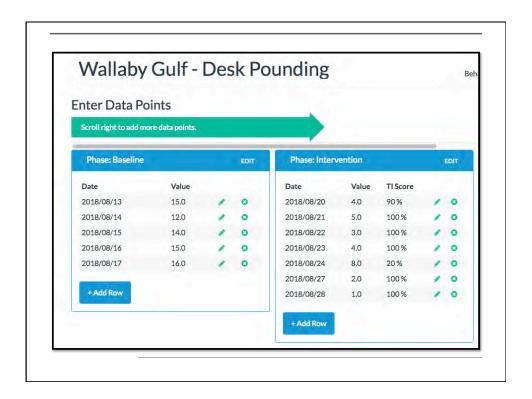


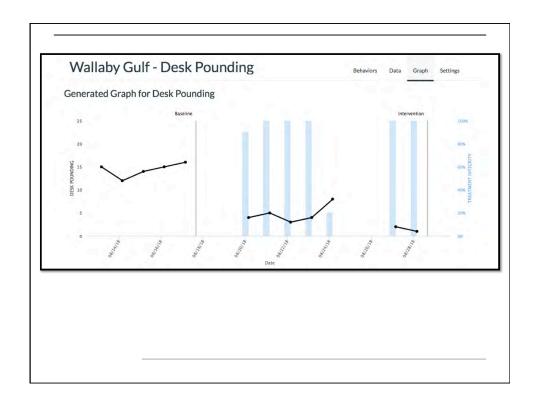
Туре	Description	When to Use	Advantages	Disadvantages	Examples
EVENT RECORDING	An observer makes a tally mark or documents in some way each time a student engages in a target behavior	When the behavior that you are looking at can be easily counted, but not at such a high rate that it is hard to document.	Easy to do	Not as helpful if the behavior occurs at a really high rate or occurs over extended periods of time	Leaves seat, blurts out
DURATION RECORDING	Record the amount of time a student engages in a behavior	When a behavior occurs at a high rate or occurs over extended periods of time	Tells duration and the frequency since you record each event	Need a stopwatch or other way of recording time. Need an outside observer.	Tantrums, sleeping, screaming, working or an assignment, interacting with peers
LATENCY RECORDING	Record how long it takes for a behavior to begin following a specific verbal command or event	When a behavior has a clear beginning so that you can tell exactly when the behavior starts	Tells you how long it takes for a behavior to begin	Need a stopwatch or other way of recording time. Need an outside observer.	Compliance issues for example, how long did it take when prompte to begin working, preparing for class activities, or returning to class after lunch.
INTERVAL RECORDING	Record when a behavior occurs within a given time interval	When a behavior appears continuous (e.g., talking with peers)	Help identify patterns of behavior.	Need an outside observer; Provides an estimate; Requires undivided attention	Working on an assignment, swearing hitting

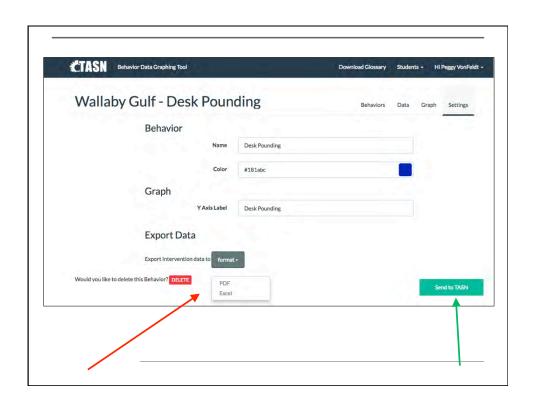






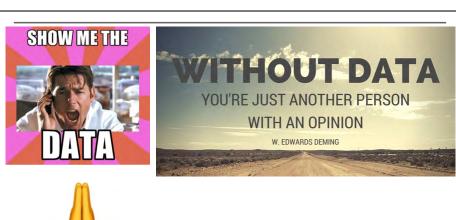






Measurement Resources

- Frequency/Rate: http://ksdetasn.org/resources/447
- Cumulative Duration: http://ksdetasn.org/resources/514
- Partial Interval: http://ksdetasn.org/resources/498
- MTS: http://ksdetasn.org/resources/496
- Latency: http://ksdetasn.org/resources/495
- Opportunity Recording: <u>http://ksdetasn.org/resources/497</u>
- Trials to Criterion: http://ksdetasn.org/resources/499

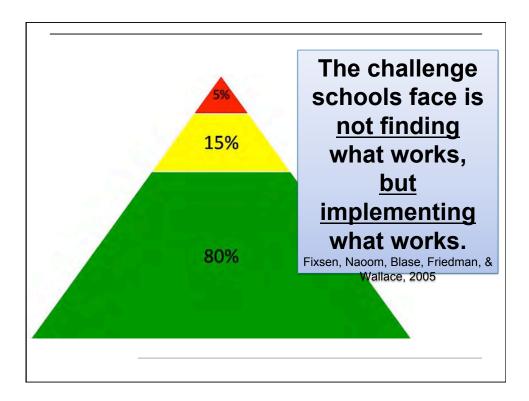




✓ Teachers who analyze their data regularly have students who make more progress

(Jiminez, Mims & Browder, 2012).





Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA)

An empirically supported practice that has been demonstrated to improve both the effectiveness & efficiency of behavioral interventions in schools.

(Blair, Umbreit, & Bos, 1999; Carr et al., 1999; Epstein, Atkins, Cullinan, Kutash, & Weaver, 2008; Ingram, Lewis-Palmer, & Sugai, 2005; Lee, Sugai, & Horner, 1999; Loman & Horner, 2014; Newcomer & Lewis, 2004, Strickland-Cohen & Horner, 2015; Strickland-Cohen, Vatland, Spear, & Romer, in prep)

Student Eligibility

- Does the student's behavior impede his or her learning or the learning of others? Or, does the student pose a threat to him or herself or others? (Drasgow & Yell, 2001)
- According to data, has the student been non-responsive to other intervention efforts?
- 3. Does the student have multiple risk factors (e.g., harsh and inconsistent parenting or high mobility) making him or her more susceptible to school failure and/or dangerous behavior?
- 4. Has the student been (a) placed in an alternative setting for behavior dangerous to him or herself or others (b) placed in an alternative setting for 45 days due to drug or weapons violations? Or (c), has the student been suspended from school for more than 10 days or has that suspension resulted in a change in placement (Drasgow & Yell, 2001)?

*If you answered yes to the first three questions, a FABI may be warranted. If you answered yes to the fourth question, an FBA is mandated by the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA, 2004).

Lane, K. L., Menzies, H., Bruhn, A., & Crnobori, M. (2011). Research-based practices for preventing and responding to behavior problems: Effective, practical strategies that work. New York, NY: Pearson.

Kansas Special Education Process Handbook

Listed by chapter:

https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Special-Education/Legal-Special-Education-Law/Kansas-Special-

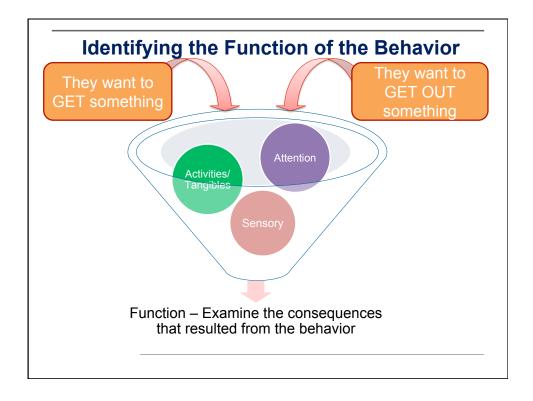
Education-Process-Handbook

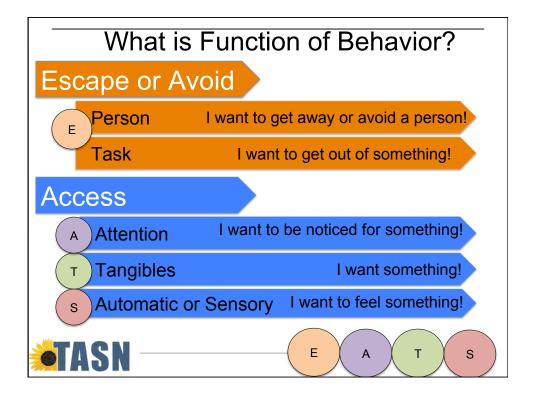
Download:

https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/SES/PH/PH-complete.pdf?ver=2015-01-30-144654-223

FBA in Schools: How are we doing?

- Research shows that FBA's can be effectively designed and implemented by typical school personnel
 - Crone, Hawken, & Bergstrom, 2007; Dukes, Rosenberg, & Brady, 2007; Loman & Horner, 2014; Maag & Larson, 2004; Renshaw et al., 2008; Scott, Nelson, & Zabala, 2003; Strickland-Cohen & Horner, 2015)
- However...
 - FBA continue to be underutilized
 - Schools struggle to utilize FBA's to build and implement individualized supports
 - (Blood & Neel, 2007; Cook et al., 2007, 2012; Scott & Kamps, 2007; Scott, Liaupsin, Nelson, & McIntyre, 2005; Van Acker, Boreson, Gable, & Potterton, 2005)





Why does FBA continue to be under utilized In schools?

- Common barriers...
 - Lack of personnel with sufficient training in FBA/BIP
 - Opportunity is lost to utilize FBA for less severe persistent problem behavior
 - Plans built by "specialist" with minimal input from implementers
 - Plans lacking contextual fit
 - Lack of follow-up support, feedback, and coaching

Basic FBA process D.A.S.H.



Define behavior in observable & measurable terms

Ask about behavior by interviewing staff & student

- -specify routines where & when behaviors occur
- -summarize where, when, & why behaviors occur

See the behavior

- -observe the behavior during routines specified
- -observe to verify summary from interviews

Hypothesize: a final summary of where, when & why behaviors occur

Solution - Partnership

PARTNERED WITH

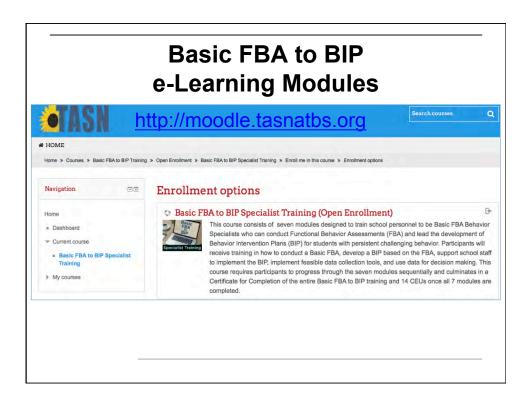
Kansas' Technical Assistance System **Network**

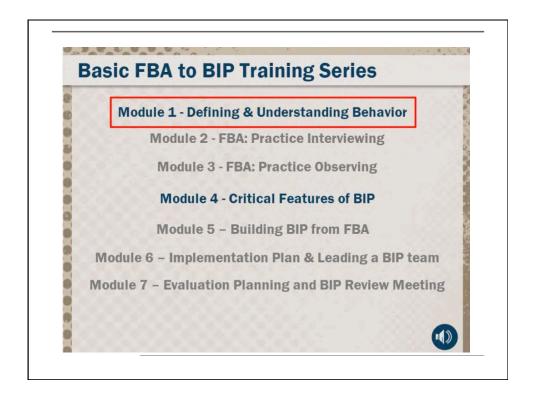
- Autism and Tertiary Behavior Supports Project (ATBS)
- Kansas MTSS Project

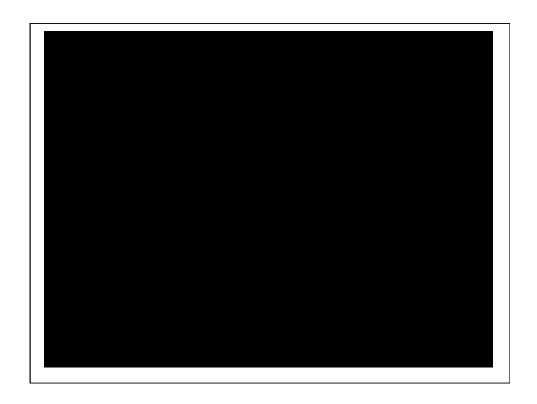




- Chris Borgmeier and Sheldon Loman
- www.basicfba.com

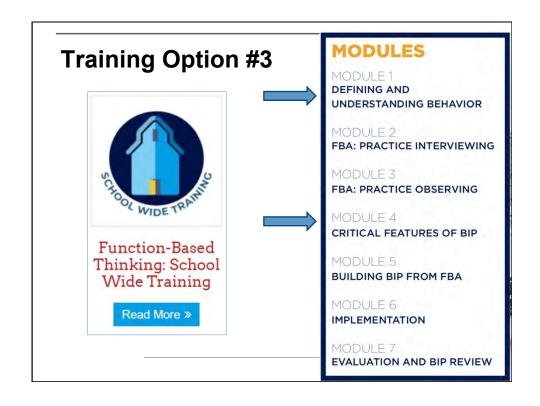












School/District
Behavior Intervention Plan
☐ Identify Target and Replacement Behavior
Prevent Strategies (both for target behavior and minor offenses)
What and how will you teach the student the replacement behavior?
☐ How will the student receive reinforcement?
☐ How will other's behavior change?
☐ How will others be trained?
☐ How will progress be monitored?
☐ How will generalization occur?
What will happen when the behavior happens
again?

Registered Behavior Technician™ (RBT)

bacb.com/rbt

- Meets BACB's RBT instructional requirements and task list standards http://www.bacb.com/rbt/rbt-requirements/
- Task List:
 http://www.bacb.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/161019-RBT-task-list-english.pdf
 http://www.bacb.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/161019-RBT-task-list-english.pdf
- Free Online training
- Self-paced
- 180 days to complete
- Access to BCBA Instructors
- Can be taken for instructional content for credentialing, or, for professional development
- Advertised on our Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/TASN.ATBS/
- · Next sessions:
 - November 12, 2018 May 11, 2019
 - March 13, 2019 September 9, 2019
 - July 17, 2019 January 13, 2020



Additional Resources

Behavior Intervention Planner: Checklist

http://www.interventioncentral.org/behavioral-intervention-modification

Ksdetasn.org

- Interspersing: https://ksdetasn.org/resources/964
- Choices: https://www.ksdetasn.org/resources/933
- Good Behavior Game: https://www.ksdetasn.org/resources/1220
 Token Economies: https://www.ksdetasn.org/resources/336
- De-escalation Videos: https://www.ksdetasn.org/atbs/de-escalation-materials

Choral Responding:

http://autism.outreach.psu.edu/sites/default/archive_files/58Handout -Good Noise.pdf

University of Louiville - Videos: https://louisville.edu/education/abri/training.html

TASN Autism and Tertiary **Behavior Supports**

www.ksdetasn.org





Nine Questions to Ask When Prioritizing Target Behaviors

- 1. Does the behavior pose any danger to the client or to others?
 - Behaviors that cause harm or pose a serious threat to the student or to others' personal safety or health must receive first priority.
- 2. How many opportunities will the person have to use this new behavior? How often does this problem behavior occur?

How the behavior change or relevance of the new skill impacts the student in other environments.

- 3. How long-standing is the problem or skill deficit?
 - A chronic behavior problem or skill deficit (e.g., lack of social interaction skills) should take precedence over problems that appear sporadically or that have just recently surfaced.
- 4. Will changing this behavior produce higher rates of reinforcement for the person?

 If all other considerations are equal, a behavior that results in higher, sustained levels of reinforcement should take precedence over a behavior that produces little additional reinforcement for the student.
- 5. What will be the relative importance of this target behavior to future skill development and independent functioning?
 - Each target behavior should be judged in terms of its relation (i.e., prerequisite or supportive) to other critical behaviors needed for optimal learning and development and maximum levels of independent functioning in the future.
- **6. Will changing this behavior reduce negative or unwanted attention from others?**Public displays or mannerisms may be high-priority target behaviors if their modification is likely to provide access to more normalized settings or important learning environments.
- 7. Will this new behavior produce reinforcement for significant others?

Even though a person's behavior should seldom, if ever, be changed simply for the convenience of others or for maintenance of the status quo, neither should the effect of a person's behavior change on the significant others in his life be overlooked.

- 8. How likely is success in changing this target behavior?
 - Some behaviors are more difficult to change than others. At least three sources of information can help assess the level of difficulty or, more precisely, predict the ease or degree of success in changing a particular behavior. What does the literature say about attempts to change this behavior? How experienced is the practitioner? To what extent can the environment be controlled effectively?
- 9. How much will it cost to change this behavior?
 - Cost should be considered before implementing any systematic behavior change program. However, a cost-benefit analysis of several potential target behaviors does not mean that if a teaching program is expensive, it should not be implemented. There are major court rulings that state that lack of public funds may not be used as an excuse for not providing an appropriate education to all children regardless of the severity of their disability. Cost consideration should include the student's time that the behavior change program will demand.

Cooper, J. O., Heron, T. E., & Heward, W. L. (1987). Applied behavior analysis. Columbus: Merrill Pub. Nine Questions to Ask When Prioritizing Target Behaviors 2-19-16:pal



Worksheet for Prioritizing Potential Target Behaviors

Student Name:	Date:
Person Completing the Worksheet:	
Rater's Relationship to student:	

<u>Directions:</u> Use the key below to rank each potential target behavior by the extent to which it meets or fulfills each prioritization criteria. Add each team member's ranking of each potential target behavior. The behavior(s) with the highest total scores would presumably be the highest priority for intervention. Other criteria relevant to a particular program or individual's situation can be added, and the criteria can be differentially weighted.

Key: 0 = No or Never
1 = Rarely
2 = Maybe or Sometimes
3 = Probably or Usually
4 = Yes or Always

Does this behavior pose danger to the person or to others?	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
How many opportunities will the person have to use this new skill in the natural environment? Or How often does the problem behavior occur?	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
How long-standing is the problem or skill deficit?	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
Will changing this behavior produce a higher rate of reinforcement for the person?	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
What is the relative importance of this target behavior to future skill development and independent functioning?	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
Will changing this behavior reduce negative or unwanted attention from others?	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
Will changing this behavior reproduce reinforcement for significant others?	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
How likely is success in changing this behavior?	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4
How much will it cost to change this behavior?	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4	0 1 2 3 4

Totals



Summary notes / comments:

Social Significance of Potential Target Behaviors

Student Name:			Date	e:
Person Completing the Worksheet:				
Rater's Relationship to Student:				
Behavior:				
			_	
Considerations	Α	ssess	sment	Rationale / Comments
Is this behavior likely to produce reinforcement in the student's natural environment after intervention ends?	Yes	No	Not Sure	
Is this behavior a necessary prerequisite for a more complex and functional skill?	Yes	No	Not Sure	
Will this behavior increase the student's access to environments in which other important behaviors can be acquired and used?	Yes	No	Not Sure	
Will changing this behavior predispose others to interact with the student in a more appropriate and support manner?	Yes	No	Not Sure	
Is this behavior a pivotal behavior or behavioral cusp?	Yes	No	Not Sure	
Is this an age-appropriate behavior?	Yes	No	Not Sure	
If this behavior is to be reduced or eliminated from the student's repertoire, has an adaptive and functional behavior been selected to replace it?	Yes	No	Not Sure	
Does this behavior represent the actual problem/goal, or is it only indirectly related?	Yes	No	Not Sure	
If the goal itself is not a specific behavior (e.g, losing 20 pounds), will this behavior help achieve it?	Yes	No	Not Sure	

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Worksheets for Prioritizing Potential Target Behaviors.docx.pav 3-14-18

Behavior Data Graphing Tool Log In

Welcome to the Behavior Data Graphing Tool

To use this tool, you'll need to log in with your TASN account.



Don't have an account? You can Sign Up

Questions? Contact TASN Autism and Tertiary Behavior Supports

The Behavior Data Graphing Tool is a service provided by TASN's Autism and Tertiary Behavior Supports team, and is a part of the Kansas Technical Assistance System Network (TASN).

For questions or training, contact us here.



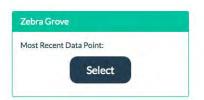
Login





Welcome!

Select a record to continue adding data, or create a new student.





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Download Glossary

Students +

Hi Peggy VonFeldt -

Start a New Intervention

Behavior Data Graphing Tool

We've randomly assigned this intervention a name:

Bear Orchard



I don't like that one, generate another name

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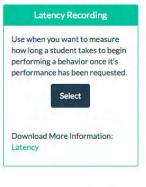
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Start a New Intervention for Bear Orchard

Which observation recording procedure did you use?









Not sure how to make this choice? Click here for some further guidance.



Behavior Data Graphing Tool

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Start a New Intervention for Bear Orchard

Next, answer these background questions about this intervention.

You can go back and edit these later.

School District (USD #)

Was a parent interview completed before the intervention began?

Next >

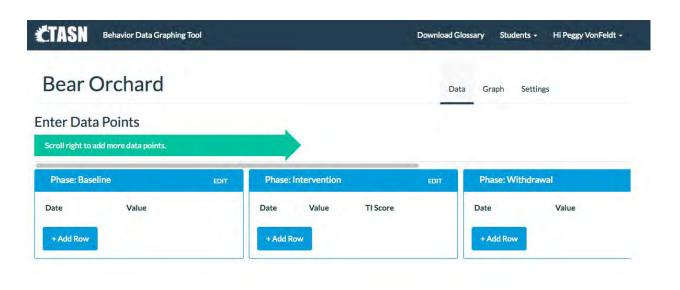
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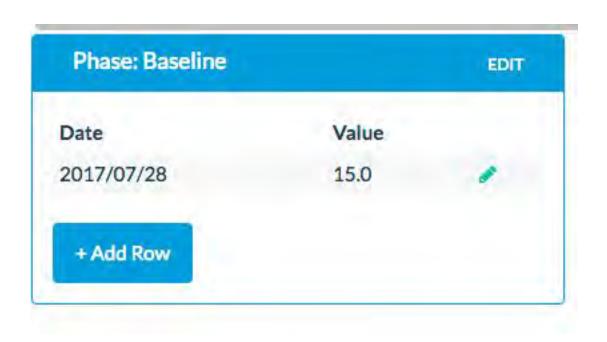
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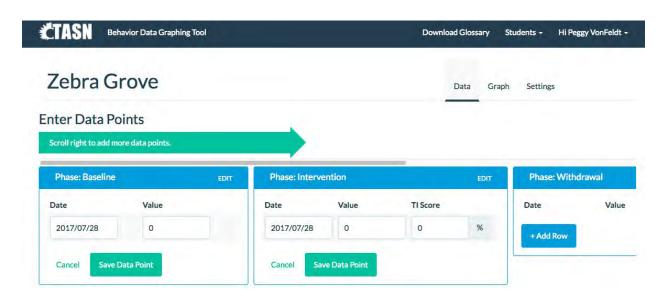


Start a New Intervention for Bear Orchard

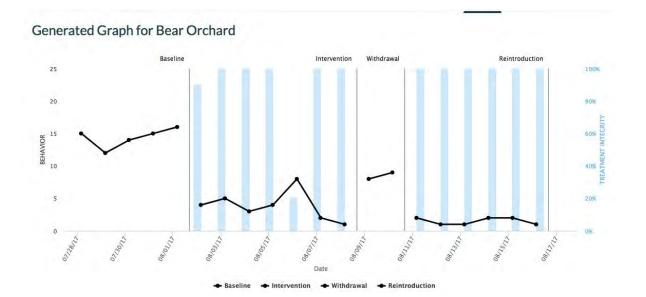
Last step! Invite other team members to view and add data: You can manage your team here, and invite new people to join. Peggy VonFeldt Peggyv@tasnatbs.org Add New Team Member for Bear Orchard Enter a Name or Email Address to search Add Member or invite a New User to join your Team for Bear Orchard First Name Last Name Limite New User I'm done, let me enter data!







Bear Orchard Graph Settings **Background Questions Team Members** For each intervention, you must answer these introductory questions. You can manage your team here, and invite new people to join. THAT'S YOU School District (USD#) Peggy VonFeldt peggyv@tasnatbs.org Add New Team Member for Bear Orchard Was a parent interview completed before the intervention Add Member Enter a Name or Email Address to search **Graph Settings** or invite a New User to join your Team for Bear Orchard Y Axis Label First Name Last Name **Export Data** Email Export Intervention data to format Invite New User Would you like to delete this intervention? DELETE





Example Worksheet for Operationally Defining the Target Behavior

Operationally defining target behaviors contain 4 key components: Label, Definition, Examples and Non-Examples. The definition, should be:

- 1. **Objective:** This means they are measurable and have observable characteristics.
- 2. Clear: Should be distinct, explicit, obvious and clear so another person can read it and measure it.
- 3. **Complete:** It should include language that directs the observer in all situations, leaving little to judgment (i.e., examples and non-examples).

Target Behavior: Give it a label.

Example: Off-task

Write the **definition** of a target behavior:

Example definition of off-task behavior: Attending to activities other than direct instruction or instructor-led activities.

Examples:

- Laying head on desk
- Fidgeting with non-instructional materials
- Talking to peers

Non-Examples:

- Attending to work assigned
- Using materials for instructional activities
- Following classroom talking level expectation

Example of Complete **Operational Definition of Target Behavior**:

Off-task behavior refers to attending to activities other than direct instruction or instructor-led activities. This looks like lying head down on the desk, fidgeting with non-instructional materials and talking to peers. Non-examples include attending to work assigned, using materials for instructional activities and following the classroom talking level expectation.



Activity Worksheet for Operationally Defining The Target Behavior

Target Behaviors contain 3 elements:

- 1. **Objective:** This means they are measurable and have observable characteristics.
- 2. Clear: Should be distinct, explicit, obvious and clear so another person can read it and measure it.
- 3. **Complete:** It should include language that directs the observer in all situations, leaving little to judgment (i.e., examples and non-examples).

and non-examples).	
<u>Label</u> of Target Behavior:	
<u>Definition</u> of Target Behavior	
Examples:	Non-Examples:
Complete Operational Definition of Target Behavior:	

Cooper, J. O., Heron, T. E., & Heward, W. L. (2007). *Applied behavior analysis*, 2nd ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson Prentice Hall . Pgs. 65-69. Pal:Target Behavior Worksheet.docx

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