

Using FBA for Diagnostic Assessment in Behavior

Overview

Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA)

- Definition of FBA**
Problem solving process used to develop hypotheses about what is *triggering, reinforcing, and maintaining* problem behaviors
- Functions of Behavior**
To **access** (e.g., obtain or get) something
To **avoid or escape** something

What Are the ABCs?

- Antecedent** – events that happen BEFORE a behavior (slow vs. fast triggers)
- Behavior** -- Action or event that is *observable, measurable, and repeated*
- Consequence** – events that happen AFTER a behavior (reinforcement / punishment)

Levels of Diagnostic Assessment (FBA):

- Informal**
Archival Review (e.g., review of school records or documents related to behavior concerns); Problem-solving meeting (e.g., ERASE)
- Indirect / Simple**
Functional Assessment Checklist; Functional Assessment Interview
- Complex**
A-B-C Data; Structured, Direct Observation
Functional assessment, functional analysis of behavior, functional behavior analysis

Steps for Conducting FBAs:

- Functional Assessment Interview**
 - Part A: Identify goals and outcomes
 - Part B: (Operationally) Define target behavior
 - Part C: Identify antecedent and consequent events
 - Part D: Schedule review – focus on summary and hypothesis formation