WHEN CHALLENGING BEHAVIOR OCCURS

Does it...
1. Interfere with learning
2. Is it harmful to self or others?
3. Put student at risk for social challenges?

Yes

Consider environmental factors

No

Ignore unwanted behavior and reinforce an alternative behavior that serves similar purpose or need.

Predictability

Does student have a physical/tangible schedule they check off events?

No

Motivation

From student’s perspective are expectations consistent across environments & people? Reinforcement & correction procedures the same?

No

Have you done a preference assessment?

No

Appropriate instruction

Yes

Have you done an assessment to identify appropriate academic targets? Is work at an appropriate level? Is the work engaging or interesting?

No

Start PBA Process

No

Conduct assessment, intersperse easy/hard tasks, use more reinforcement for difficult skills

Conduct assessment & incorporate into reinforcement

Ensure consistency in expectations, reinforcement, and correction

Create schedule, make visual if needed

Ensure consistency in expectations, reinforcement, and correction

Conduct assessment & incorporate into reinforcement

Start PBA Process

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This flow chart outlines decision making regarding the environmental variables that influence challenging behavior. It is titled: Challenging Behavior Occurs.

The first box in the flow chart says: “Does it: 1. Interfere with learning, 2. Is it harmful to self or others? 3. Put student at risk for social challenges?” There are two arrows flowing from this chart. One arrow says “No” and one arrow says “Yes.” The arrow that says “No” leads you to box that says: “Ignore unwanted behavior and reinforce an alternative behavior that serves similar purpose or need.” The other arrow that says “Yes” says: “Consider environmental factors.”

The from the “Consider environment factors box there are three boxes that off shoot. The first box says “Predictability,” the second box says “Motivation,” and the third box says, “Appropriate Instruction.”

Under the box that says “Predictability” there are two boxes that can be selected. One box says, “Does student have a physical/tangible schedule they check off events?” The second box says “From the student’s perspective are expectations consistent across environment and people? Reinforcement and correction procedures the same?”

From the box that says “Does student have a physical/tangible schedule they check off events?” there are two arrows. One arrow says “Yes” and one arrow says “No”. The arrow that says “No” leads you to a box that says “Create schedule, make visual if needed”. The arrow that says “Yes” brings you to a box that says, “Start FBA process.”

From the box that says “From student’s perspective are expectations consistent across environments and people? Reinforcement and correction procedures the same?” there are two arrows. One arrow says “No” which leads you to a box that says, “Ensure consistency in expectations, reinforcement, and correction.” The arrows that says “No” brings you to the box at the bottom that says, “Start FBA process.”

Under the box that says “Motivation” there is a box that says, “Have you done a preference assessment?” There are two arrows; one that says “Yes” and one that says “No.” The arrow that says “No” leads you to a box that says, “Conduct assessment and incorporate into reinforcement.” The arrow that says “Yes” leads you to the box at the bottom of the page that says, “Start FBA process.”

Under the box that says “Appropriate Instruction” there is a box that says “Have you done an assessment to identify appropriate academic targets? Is work at an appropriate level? Is the work engaging or interesting?” From there, there are two arrows. One arrow says “Yes” and one arrow says “No”. The arrow that says “No” leads you to a box that says, “Conduct assessment, intersperse easy/hard tasks, use more reinforcement for difficult skills.” The arrow that says “Yes” leads you to the box at the bottom that says “Start FBA process.”

Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) Flowchart Accessibility Document, Idaho Special Education Support & Technical Assistance (SESTA), 2017