

Functional Behaviour Assessments (FBA) and Behaviour Intervention Plans (BIP)

Definition

A **functional behaviour assessment** (FBA) is a systematic process of identifying problem behaviors and the events that (a) reliably predict occurrences and non-occurrence of those behaviors and (b) maintain the behaviors across time. The purpose of gathering this information is to improve the effectiveness, relevance, and efficiency of behavior support plans (Carr et al., 1997; FosterJohnson & Dunlap, 1993; Horner, 1994; O'Neill et al., 1997; Sugai, Horner, & Sprague, 1999; Sugai, Lewis-Palmer, & Hagan, 1998; Tilly et al., 1998).

Specifically, if we can identify the conditions under which problem behavior is likely to occur (triggering antecedents and maintaining consequences), we can arrange environments in ways that occurrences of problem behavior can be reduced and teach and encourage behaviors that can replace problem behavior

A **behavior intervention plan** (BIP) is a plan that's based on the FBA and the function(s) of the student's behaviour. A BIP can help to replace problem behaviors with more positive ones.

When Do I Do an FBA?

An FBA and BIP are Tier 3 interventions. Consider doing an FBA when:

- Whole-class and small group behaviour interventions have been unsuccessful
- Targeted behaviour interventions have failed
- The behaviour concerns are complex

An FBA is Data-Driven

The first step in the functional behaviour assessment process is the collection of data on the student's behaviour(s) of concern. It is important to limit the process to only one or two key behaviours so that the work does not become unmanageable.

Data should be collected across settings and times/days and preferably by multiple people. It is also important to make note of times when the student demonstrates positive behaviour in order to analyze under what conditions the student is successful.

Find data collection tools at

<https://abbyconnect.sd34.bc.ca/group/q3ou1a2/Pages/default.aspx>

The Team Approach

FBA's and BIP's are designed to be completed by teams. However, you don't want so many people involved in the process that it becomes onerous. Key people to consider as part of the team are:

- Teacher(s)
- Parents
- Case manager

- Administrator
- Counselor, YCW
- SLP
- EA(s)
- Outside Agencies

For more information contact your district LSS Helping Teacher

School district staff can access helpful FBA and Behaviour Intervention Plan (BIP) forms on Abby connect at:

<https://abbyconnect.sd34.bc.ca/group/q3ou1a2/Pages/default.aspx>