

# FBA Starter Kit

Essential tools to begin your Functional Behavior Assessment

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## What is an FBA?

A Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) is a systematic process for identifying the purpose (function) that a behavior serves for a student. Understanding WHY a behavior occurs is essential for developing effective interventions.

## When to Conduct an FBA

- Behavior significantly interferes with learning
- Behavior poses safety concerns
- Previous interventions have been unsuccessful
- Behavior results in disciplinary actions
- Required for IEP/504 plan development
- Manifestation determination needed

## FBA Process Overview

1. Define the target behavior in observable, measurable terms
2. Collect indirect data (interviews, rating scales, record review)
3. Collect direct observation data (ABC, scatterplot, frequency)
4. Analyze data to identify patterns and hypothesize function
5. Develop hypothesis statement
6. Create Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP)

## Essential Data Collection Methods

### Indirect Methods

- Teacher interviews
- Parent interviews
- Student interviews (when appropriate)
- Record review (attendance, grades, discipline)
- Rating scales (FAST, MAS, QABF)

### Direct Methods

- ABC (Antecedent-Behavior-Consequence) recording
- Scatterplot analysis
- Frequency/event recording
- Duration recording
- Interval recording

## Writing a Hypothesis Statement

Template: When [antecedent/trigger], [student name] [behavior] in order to [function/what they get or avoid].

Example: When presented with independent math work, Marcus leaves his seat and talks to peers in order to escape the difficult task.

### Pro Tip

Collect at least 12-15 ABC data points before finalizing your hypothesis. Look for patterns in BOTH what happens before AND after the behavior.

### FBA Quality Checklist

- Target behavior is clearly defined and observable
- Multiple data sources were used
- Data was collected across settings and times
- Setting events were considered
- Function is clearly identified
- Hypothesis statement is complete

### Streamline Your FBA Process

Classroom Pulse helps you collect, organize, and analyze FBA data efficiently. Generate hypothesis statements automatically.

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