

A-B-C Function Procedures

- **Use this tool to document the context surrounding an occurrence of challenging behavior.**
- **These occurrences can, and should, be documented soon after an incident involving destructive behavior as possible.**
- **Have all individuals that witnessed the occurrence independently document the context.**
- **Data can also be taken from incident report record review(s).**
- **Antecedent information might include:**
 - staff member occupied with another person
 - Video game batteries ran out
 - Asked to brush teeth
- **Behavior information might include**
 - Banging hand on table
 - Threw iPod
 - Hit staff with fist
- **Consequence information might include**
 - Staff reminded individual of consequences if the pounding continued
 - Staff directed individual to pick up iPod before new batteries would be provided
 - Staff directed individual to time-out area (Sam's bedroom)
- **Function information might include**
 - Your best guess as to what the person exhibiting the challenging behavior may have wanted to get out of the situation. (e.g. to get out of brushing his teeth)

Additional points to consider regarding **“Function”**

1. The function is likely to be predicted by the antecedent (e.g. when presented with a division math problem).
2. The person may or may not have gotten what you think they wanted. The function is maintained by the consequence; however, the consequence that maintains a behavior may not always follow the behavior (e.g. casting a fishing line, pulling a slot machine handle).