Functions of Behavior

Four Primary Functions for Behavior:

- Attention
- Escape
- Tangible
- Sensory
Determining Functions of Behavior

How to determine function and purpose of behavior:

1. Interview (ecological events interview)
2. Direct Observation (motivation assessment scale)
3. Functional Analysis
4. Functional Hypothesis
Functions of Behavior

• Escape: from person, task, environment, etc.

• Tangible: desire for a specific item or activity

• Attention: desire for attention from peers, adults.

• Sensory: the behavior feels good or meets a sensory need.
Why Behavior Occurs

Attention
Behaviors usually occurs when specific individuals are present.
Peer Attention: may be all the time
Person Specific **not** Event or Location Specific
Why Behavior Occurs

Escape

Behavior usually occurs in response to specific person, event or requests to perform activity.

(Example)
Why Behavior Occurs

Tangible

Behavior often occurs when something has been denied or taken away -- it is not person or event specific.

(Give Example)
Why Behavior Occurs

Sensory
Behaviors occur anytime, anywhere.
Not person, event or location specific.
May occur more often when under stress.