Individual Supports: Functional Assessment & Function-Based Interventions

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Dunlap and Colleagues (2006)


- 5 Intervention Elements
#1 Interventions Based on a Functional Assessment
Why Do Challenging Behaviors Occur?
What is a Functional Assessment?

- Interview
- Observations
- Hypothesis testing
- Record review
- Rating Scale
#2 Multicomponent Intervention Implementation
#3 Teach a Replacement Behavior
#4 Adjustments Made to Activities and Social / Physical Environment
#5 Family Involvement
Example:
Participants & Settings

- Mark
  - 3.9 years old
  - Language delay
    - Center Activities

- Doug
  - 4 years old
  - Down syndrome
    - Circle Time

- Paul
  - 4.9 years old
  - Autism
    - Transitions/Centers
Functional Assessment

- Interviews
  - Parents
  - Teachers
- Direct Observations
  - Variety activities/routines
Function-Based Intervention

- Multicomponent Interventions
  - Changes made to the environment
  - Replacement behavior
  - Challenging behavior
Mark’s Intervention Elements

- Adjustments made:
  - Preferred activity
  - Task sheet
  - Reading center

- Replacement behavior:
  - Praised for on-task
Doug’s Intervention Elements

- Adjustments made:
  - Circle time expectations
  - Seating arrangement

- Replacement behavior:
  - Praised for on-task
Paul’s Intervention Elements

- Adjustments made:
  - Visual schedule

- Replacement behavior:
  - Taught replacement behaviors
  - Praised for on-task
Future Directions

- Research to Practice
  - Implementation
  - Training
  - Effective Practice
    - Pyramid Model
      - Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL)
      - Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention for Young Children (TACSEI)


**Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) at http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel/index.html

**Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention for Young Children (TACSEI) at www.challengingbehavior.org