

Tip Sheet for Professionals

ANTECEDENT-BASED INTERVENTIONS ARE...

- An evidence-based practice for children and youth on the spectrum from 0-22 years old that can be implemented in multiple settings.
- Focus on identifying the events that take place immediately before and after an identified interfering behavior in order to modify the environment to change the conditions in the setting that prompt a learner to engage in the behavior.



WHY USE WITH LEARNERS ON THE SPECTRUM?

- ABI are designed to prevent the identified interfering behavior from occurring.
- Team members can use ABI to increase engagement and on-task behaviors.
- ABI are easy to implement and require little additional effort by team members

INSTRUCTIONAL OUTCOMES:

The evidence-base for antecedent-based interventions supports its use to address the following outcomes, according to age range, in the table below:

- TIPS:**
- Complete an FBA to identify a behavior that interferes with learning and what function that behavior is serving
 - Select an ABI strategy that addresses the functioning of the interfering behavior
 - Ignore interfering behavior and provide reinforcement to the learner for not engaging in the interfering behavior and for completing a task or activity.

Age	Academic	Adaptive	Behavior	Comm- unication	Mental Health	Play	School- readiness	Social
0-2		Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes		
3-5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
6-11	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
12-14		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
15-18	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
19-22			Yes					Yes

STEPS FOR IMPLEMENTING:

1. PLAN

- Identify and define interfering behavior through an FBA
- Collect data using direct observation methods
- Review data collected from direct observations
- Develop a hypothesis statement and an overall goal

2. USE

- Select an ABI strategy that addresses the function of the interfering behavior. ABI strategies include:
 - Using learner preferences
 - Changing schedules/routines
 - Implementing pre-activity interventions
 - Using choice-making
 - Altering how instruction is delivered
 - Enriching the environment with sensory stimuli
- Create lesson plan that includes selected ABI strategy.
- Ignore interfering behavior.
- Provide learner with reinforcement.

3. MONITOR

- Collect and analyze data on interfering behavior.
- Determine next steps based on learner progress.



Antecedent-Based Interventions ABI

This sheet was designed as a supplemental resource to provide basic information about antecedent-based interventions for professionals working with learners on the spectrum.

For more information about this selected evidence-based practice, please visit <https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/>.