

UNDERSTANDING AND RESPONDING TO STUDENT BEHAVIOR

This course provides a primer for understanding why students exhibit specific behavior and how to respond appropriately. All behavior has a function, though understanding its purpose can often be challenging. If we ask the right questions, we can begin crafting a strengths-based approach to teaching students constructive replacement behaviors. Ultimately, these practices minimize classroom disruption and enable more time to focus on instruction. Educators and leaders will hone their behavior response skills in this engaging course.

Course Description

This course is a single half-day training (approximately 3 hours), available in either virtual or in-person format. It offers a comprehensive introduction to understanding why students exhibit behavior that interferes with learning and prepares educators to use common responses to behavior according to the function served. Participants will learn to approach behavior as communication, explore a research-backed problem-solving approach, and aligned tools. Participants will apply learning to design action steps for students who exhibit interfering behaviors in their classroom context.

Learning Outcomes

This course will enable participants to:

- understand that all behavior is communication and adopt a problem-solving mindset
- identify the four functions of behavior using the ABC framework
- understand the importance of identifying proactive strategies and replacement behaviors that map to the function of challenging behavior
- make a plan to integrate proactive strategies, teach and reinforce replacement behaviors that help students be successful.

Feedback From ABC Course Participants

“The most valuable part of the training were the insightful examples and alternative courses of action for different examples.”

- After School Program Provider

“The facilitators are incredibly supportive and helpful. They explain everything clearly, add helpful anecdotes and ask really thoughtful questions. They are warm and kind and I really appreciate them!”

- General Education Teacher

Course Breakdown

- Behavior as Communication
- Understanding the Problem-Solving Approach
- The Four Functions of Behavior
- Universal and Function-Specific Prevention Strategies
- Teaching and Reinforcing Replacement Behaviors
- Data Collection and Progress Monitoring
- Reflection and Application to Your Work