

Behavior Flashcards

The 4 Functions of Behavior

6

Flashcards

3

Categories

ABA

Focused

CATEGORIES

Functions

Identify

Respond

Each card shows the question and answer together.
Color-coded by category for quick review.

Based on ABA principles & the NICE guideline on challenging behaviour • For educational use

FUNCTIONS

1/6

QUESTION

What are the 4 functions of behavior?

ANSWER

Attention, Escape/Avoidance, Tangible (access to an item), and Sensory/Automatic.
Remembered as S.E.A.T.

FUNCTIONS

2/6

QUESTION

What does the 'function' of a behavior mean?

ANSWER

The purpose it serves for the child — the unmet need it is communicating when words fall short.

IDENTIFY

3/6

QUESTION

How do you find what is maintaining a behavior?

ANSWER

Track the antecedent (before), the behavior, and the consequence (after) across several days, then look for the pattern.

IDENTIFY

4/6

QUESTION

Which part gives the biggest clue, and why?

ANSWER

The consequence. It shows what the child gains each time — and that gain names the function driving the behavior.

RESPOND

5/6

QUESTION

How do you respond to attention and escape behavior?

ANSWER

Attention: notice calm moments and teach how to ask. Escape: give short breaks and teach a 'break, please' signal.

RESPOND

6/6

QUESTION

What is the golden rule for responding to any function?

ANSWER

Meet the same need in a safer way — reward the communication you want to see, not the behavior you want to reduce.