



Find a Qualified Therapist

The most important thing you can do for your child is find a professional who specializes in human behavior and who is qualified to carry out treatment. The best advice is to seek out a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. These professionals have received their training specifically in the study of human behavior and have completed an approved curriculum including rigorous hands-on experience and supervision and who abide by a rigorous Code of Ethics.

To find a Board Certified Behavior Analyst go to: BACB.com and click on the Certificant Registry.

Beware of Fads, Frauds and Hoaxes

Currently, there is no cure for autism. As a result, autism has become a “fad magnet” for promoters of potentially dangerous and untested treatments who prey on the fear and anxiety of parents. Be wary of therapies that have no research basis. Go to BehaviorCanChange.com for a list of these risky and questionable “therapies” and for academic references supporting our concerns and skepticism.

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Behavior Can Change
We Can Help!



Applied Behavior Analysis:

What You Need to Know About Effective Autism Treatment



Florida Association for
Behavior Analysis



Applied Behavior Analysis:

Evidence-Based Treatment for Autism

Applied Behavior Analysis...

Is the most effective treatment for individuals with autism. It is the only treatment that has been endorsed by the New York State Department of Mental Health as having sufficient research to be recommended as a method for children under three who have been diagnosed with autism.

The Behavior Analytic Approach

Is based on scientific, data-based, applied research over the past 30-years. This research has been published in peer-reviewed journals and has been validated in schools, homes and treatment clinics in the United States and internationally.

If Your Child Has Been Diagnosed with Autism

You will want to find a Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) who can design an in-home, behaviorally-based treatment plan. This plan will consist of instructional programs and, if needed, behavior reduction

programs. The BCBA will show you how to deliver instruction to your child and how to address challenging behaviors. The BCBA may also train others who you hire as therapists to work with your child according to the plan.

How Your Behavior Analyst Will Help Your Child

1. Assess the child's current functioning using skill-based assessments.
2. Target the most important skills.
3. Teach everyone who works with the child to use instructional prompts and reinforcement.
4. Collect data to evaluate effectiveness of the instruction. If a technique is not working the data will show this and modifications will be made to assure effectiveness
5. Promote the generalization of skills.

Functional Assessment

Behavior analysts are uniquely qualified to carry out functional behavioral assessments to determine why certain challenging behaviors occur. During a functional assessment, the behavior analyst will observe your child and conduct short-term trials of interventions to determine what works best for your child.

Based on the assessment, the behavior analyst will develop a treatment plan specific to your child's needs. The treatment plan will outline procedures for preventing your child's challenging behaviors and addressing these behaviors should they occur.

