

NYCDOE Definitions for Programs - Revised 4/14/04



ABA = Assessment (FBA¹ + Criteria Referenced + Curriculum Based + Norm Reference + Learning Rate) + **Instruction** (Direct + Task Analysis + Trial⁴ + **Reinforcement** = **Learning Outcomes** (Data Collection + Generalization)

APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS

Science of building/changing socially significant behavior through systematic manipulation of the learning environment. Data analysis determines progress and guides current and future educational instruction, incorporating the following components...

Assessment

- **Functional Behavior Assessment** – A comprehensive process of information gathering and analysis designed to determine the function/purpose of a behavior. The analysis is then linked to educational programming with a focus on increasing socially appropriate behaviors and decreasing maladaptive behaviors..
- **Criterion Referenced** - Performance is compared to an established standard for the skill.
- **Curriculum-based** - Performance is compared to a curricular hierarchy of skills (may be norm referenced or criterion referenced).
- **Norm Referenced** - Performance is compared to a standardized control group
- **Learning Rate** – (200.1...)

Instruction

- **Direct Instruction** - The implementation of a planned procedure for teaching a specific skill to a student.
- **Task Analysis** - The description of a sequence of basic or simple actions that comprise a complex skill
- **Trial: Discrete** - An instructional procedure for teaching brief motor or verbal responses. Typically, the teacher controls the instructional cues and the consequences for the student's response, and a short interval (3-5 seconds) is given between trials.
- **Trial: Mass/Repeated** - Discrete trials that are repeated consecutively during a single teaching session.
- **Trial: Distributed** – Discrete trials that are interspersed during an activity/school day
- **Trial Embedded-**
- **Reinforcement** - Any event that follows a behavior, which increases the likelihood of that behavior occurring again in similar situations. Reinforcement is comprised of primary reinforcers (e.g., edibles, liquids, physical stimulation) and secondary

reinforcers (e.g., tangibles, privileges, social praise), and may be obtained (positive reinforcement) or removed (negative reinforcement) following the occurrence of the behavior.

Learning Outcomes

- **Data Collection** - An organized way of collecting information to monitor progress and establish teaching objectives.
- **Generalization** - Integration of skills within instructional environment.