

## **MDE Functional Behavioral Assessment Example**

### **Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA)**

Evaluator: Example Teacher

Date: 10/30/2018

A FBA is a process to identify the function of a student's behavior. The FBA was completed utilizing a variety of strategies including observations, interviews and a review of records.

#### **Problem Behavior(s):**

The target behavior for Billy is swearing. Swearing is defined as any vocalization that consists of or includes vulgarities (rude or offensive language) or expletives (e.g., f-word, s-word, b-word).

#### **Events, times and situations that predict the occurrence and nonoccurrence of the behavior(s):**

Billy seems to swear when he appears to dislike what someone else says, when adults stand close in proximity, when spoken to with a loud volume or tone, and when he is told he cannot do something. His swearing tends to decrease when he is allowed to work independently and when spoken to in a calm manner.

#### **Antecedents:**

The events that are usually happening before Billy's swearing are when the teacher asks him to start his math assignment, when the teacher is standing too close to Billy's desk, and when he is spoken to with a loud volume.

#### **Possible functions of the behavior(s):**

The events that usually take place after (consequences) Billy's swearing are that he is sent out of the classroom, sent to the principal's office, given a verbal warning, or is able to go to the resource room. Other reinforcers that may be maintaining Billy's swearing are his classmates laughing when he swears, or the math assignment could be too difficult. Billy appears to swear in class in order to avoid his math homework by being removed from the situation. Billy may also swear in class in order to gain attention from the adults in the room.

#### **Possible positive alternative behavior(s):**

An appropriate replacement behavior to Billy's swearing would be for him to calmly ask the adult if he could go to the resource room to work on his math homework.

An appropriate replacement behavior would be for him to raise his hand and calmly ask for attention from an adult.

#### **Hypothesis or possible reasons for the behavior and a summary statement regarding behavioral patterns through tracking the behavior(s):**

When in math class, Billy swears out loud in order to gain attention from the adult staff.

When in math class, Billy swears out loud in order to avoid his math assignment by obtaining resource room time.

When in math class, Billy swears out loud in order to avoid his math assignment because he has a skills deficit in the area of math.

Billy engages in swearing up to 17 times in a 50-minute class period. It is most frequently observed during math class. The intensity of Billy's swearing increases when the classroom teacher or another staff member asks Billy to stop or when they increase the volume of their voice when talking with him. His swearing typically lasts less than one minute but at times can last up to 10 minutes.