





## Early Years Inclusion Team

### What is an Antecedent-Behaviour-Consequence (ABC) chart

An ABC Chart is a direct observation tool that can be used to collect information about the events that are occurring within a child's environment. "A" refers to the antecedent, or the event or activity that immediately precedes problem behaviour. The "B" refers to observed behaviour, and "C" refers to the consequence, or the event that immediately follows a response.

ABC OBSERVATION SHEET		
Child's Name: _____ DOB: _____ Setting: _____		
Behaviour causing concern: _____		
A - Antecedent	B- Behaviour	C-Consequence



An ABC Chart is used to organise information over several observation sessions by recording the types of behaviours observed and the events that precede and follow the behaviour.

Direct observation is especially important since it is less subjective relying on memory and a person's perceptions.

The ABC Chart allows a practitioner to record descriptive information about a child in a systematic and organised way.

## Completed example

Child's Name:		DOB:	Setting :
Behaviour causing concern:			
<b>A - Antecedent</b> Antecedent = Where and what is happening before the displayed behaviour.		<b>B- Behaviour</b> Behaviour = what behaviour was displayed by the child	<b>C-Consequence</b> Consequence = what happened after the displayed behaviour. How did the Practitioner respond?
2 <sup>nd</sup> May - 9.30am - Child was scooping and pouring with the sand, using a bucket and spade alongside 3 other child at the sand tray.		Child threw sand at (other child)'s face.	Other child cried. Adult approach and said 'don't throw the sand', child ran and crawled under a table. When left alone he came out after 5 minutes and chose to play with the cars.

Any strategies introduced with the aim of stopping, reducing or encouraging alternatives to challenging behaviour, should be based on the results of these observations.

It is important to recognise that challenging behaviour can occur for very complex reasons, and there will be individuals for whom those reasons remain unclear, even after a number of completed ABC observations have been carried out.

Hopefully this increased understanding will enable practitioners to make changes in the child's life that will result in a reduction in the challenging behaviour and emotional discomfort and help them to find alternatives to using challenging behaviour.

Video on the ABCs of Behaviour on YouTube



Here is one for you to watch.....

<https://youtu.be/GxcIM8klHuY>

