

Observation Log

Date/time (when the behaviour occurred)	Activity (what was the child doing before the behaviour?)	Antecedent (what happened right before the behaviour that <u>may</u> have triggered the behaviour?)	Behaviour (what was the behaviour? - describe)	Consequence (what did you do?)	Child's response (what did the child do in response to what you did?)	Possible function (i.e. tired, poorly, etc.)

How to complete an ABC chart?

An ABC chart is an observational tool that allows us to record information about a particular behaviour. The aim of using an ABC chart is to better understand what the behaviour is communicating. The 'A' refers to the antecedent or the event that occurred before the behaviour was exhibited. This can include what the person was doing, who was there, where they were, what sights / sounds / smells / temperatures / number of people that were in the environment. 'B' refers to an objective and clear description of the behaviour that occurred e.g. X threw item on the floor. 'C' refers to what occurred after the behaviour or the consequence of the behaviour e.g. children moved away from X, noise levels in the room decreased. It is important to decide on one or two target behaviours to record initially. Place the ABC chart in an accessible place to make it easier to use after the target behaviour has been exhibited.

Antecedent

With the following questions in mind, provide a step by step description of exactly what you observed prior to the behaviour, or at the same time as the behaviour occurred.

1. Where was the person, and exactly what were they doing?
2. Was anyone else around, or had anyone just left?
3. Had a request been made of the person?
4. Had the person asked for, or did they want something to eat or drink?
5. Had the person asked for, or did they want a specific object or activity?
6. Had an activity just ended, or been cancelled?
7. Where were you and what were you doing?
8. How did the person's mood appear, e.g. happy, sad, angry, withdrawn or distressed?
9. Did the person seem to be communicating anything through their behaviour, e.g. I don't want...; I want...?

Behaviour

In this column, provide a step by step description of exactly what the person did, e.g. he ran out of the living room, stood in the kitchen doorway and punched his head with his right hand for approximately 1 minute.

Consequence

In this column, with the following questions in mind, provide a step by step description of the exact events that occurred immediately after the behaviour.

1. Exactly how did you respond to the behaviour? Give a step-by-step description.
2. How did the person respond to your reaction to the behaviour?
3. Was there anyone else around who responded to, or showed a reaction to the behaviour?
4. Did the person's behaviour result in them gaining anything they did not have before the behaviour was exhibited, e.g. attention from somebody (positive or negative); an object, food or drink; or escape from an activity or situation?