

# Foundations of Function-Based Thinking

## Overview

Function-Based Thinking is a systematic way of thinking about function and its role in changing student behavior problems. Teachers provide a level of instruction and reinforcement to encourage students to engage in expected behaviors.

## Using Applied Behavior Analysis

Function-based thinking focuses on making changes to the environment to lead to changes in behavior of adults and students using Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) design principles in non-clinical, real life settings such as schoolwide and classroom environments.

## Effects

When teachers systematically work as a team to teach and provide feedback, they increase the likelihood students achieve behavior and academic competency.

*"Beyond infancy and early childhood, most behaviors humans engage in require external reinforcement."*

(Ryan & Deci, 2000)

## Importance of Teacher Praise

When educators understand the A-B-C logic of function-based thinking, they can more efficiently and effectively create schoolwide or classroom environments that are more predictable and thereby increase the likelihood that students will demonstrate expected behaviors.

## Knowing the ABCs of Applied Behavior Analysis

ABC is an acronym for the three-part contingency of Antecedent Behavior and Consequence

