

Prioritizing Behavior Fact Sheet

The Science of Behavior for Educators

Anyone can engage in multiple behaviors at the same time.

We usually cannot target all potential behaviors at the same time.

Prioritizing behavior means that assessment and intervention will have a focus.

Which behavior is most crucial is different for each individual, and also for each context. Think about these settings:

- Classroom
- Library
- Gymnasium
- Music Room
- Office
- Cafeteria
- Playground

Are the same behaviors considered to be interfering behaviors in all of these settings?

With time, other behaviors can and should be addressed, as needed.



Thoughtfully prioritizing behaviors ensures the most significant behaviors are targeted first.



When prioritizing behavior, ask:

- **Does this behavior pose any danger of harm to the student or to others?**
- **How often does the interfering behavior occur?**
- **Will changing the behavior improve outcomes for the student?**
- **Will changing the behavior improve outcomes for others?**