

Essential Steps for Data Analysis and Triangulation

Organize Data

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- Sort by source (e.g., record, interview, observation)
- Group by type (antecedents, behaviors, consequences, setting event, context)
- Confirm multiple data sources



Identify Antecedent Patterns



- Look for consistent actions that cue the behavior (e.g. task demands, teacher/peer interaction)
- Check if patterns appear across settings and observers

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Identify Consequence Patterns

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- Look for consistent responses (consequences) following the behavior
- Determine whether consequences allow the student to gain or escape (function)



Cross-Check Data



- Examine alignment between identified antecedents and consequences within direct observations and indirect data gathered (e.g. student records, interviews)

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Triangulate Sources

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- Compare behavior patterns across data sources
- Confirm at least three different sources point to the same function and support the same hypothesis



Consistent indirect and direct data and/or clear patterns

→ Use data to develop a hypothesis

Indirect and direct data inconsistent and/or patterns not clear?

→ Collect more data until patterns align

Formulate Hypothesis



- Write a clear statement : 'When [antecedent] occurs, the student does [behavior] to [function].'
- Ensure the hypothesis is observable, measurable, and testable.

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Validate Hypothesis

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- Review findings with IEP team or intervention team;
- Consider other contributing factors (e.g. medical, developmental expectations) and collaborate with others, as needed



Use Data to Inform Intervention



- Use the hypothesis statement to guide intervention
- Identify and plan instruction for related skill deficits (e.g. academics, communication, executive functioning).

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