

Case Study: Measuring Behavior

Intermediate Scenario

Student: Johnny

Age: 6

Grade: Kindergarten

Scenario

Johnny is a young boy with autism who receives most of his education in an inclusive classroom. He speaks in one and two-word utterances and can say, "book," "food," "more," "hi," and "drink." However, his main mode of communication is a picture-exchange system. Although Johnny has demonstrated that he really enjoys group activities, he has lately begun biting his fellow students. He seems to pick on Stephen the most. As if this weren't enough, Johnny has begun pinching his teacher during one-on-one instruction. After he engages in one of these behaviors, he yells, "It hurts!" and starts laughing.

Possible Strategies

- Event recording
- Interval recording

Assignment

1. Define the problem behavior.
2. Select the most appropriate observation method from the possible strategies listed above to measure the behavior.
 - Explain why you chose this method.
 - Explain how you would use this method to measure the problem behavior.