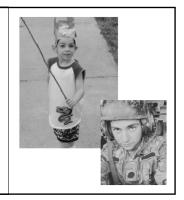




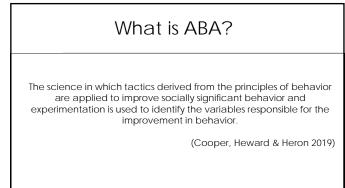




I was told, "he's just a picky eater."









## ABA is only effective for children with autism

ABA is a powerful tool for helping individuals across a variety of diagnoses. This includes but is not limited to traumatic brain injury, sports psychology, fitness and treating gambling and substance abuse.

(Pepperdine University, 2022)

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### ABA therapy encourages people to bribe children

People often confuse the word "bribe" with the concept of reinforcement. Positive reinforcement is delivered after a behavior occurs to increase the chances the behavior will happen in the future.

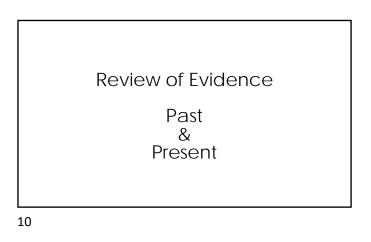
 Example: "You practiced active listening during story time, now you can have 5 minutes of free time."

Bribing, is associated with a negative behavior and typically occurs before the behavior happens.

• Example: "If you are quiet during story time, I'll give you a cookie."

(Pepperdine University, 2022)

ABA therapy encourages punishing children While many often think children acting out by hitting, yelling, or screaming, ABA defines behavior as any action a person does. While ABA can target less desirable behaviors it also focuses on reinforcing desirable behaviors.



#### Behavioral Interventions in Feeding Historical Look (Williams & Seiverling, 2023)

- For over 50 years behavioral interventions have yielded positive results for treating pediatric feeding problems.
   Escape extinction, has historically been a highly used intervention in the treatment of feeding disorders due to the large amounts of research regarding its effectiveness
- Recent research, recent research is evaluating other interventions due to the concerns raised with the use of escape escape extinction:
   Short term increase in problem behaviors
- Extinction induced emotional dependency



Although there is an abundance of empirical support for interventions that are behavior based, many clinicians opt to use non-behavior analytic approaches

(YuQ Li E., Li L, et al., 2020)

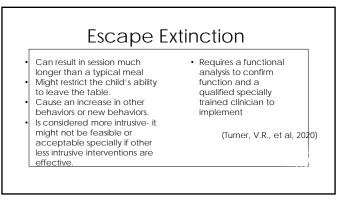
### **Escape Extinction**

Escape extinction purposefully withhold reinforcement of a challenging behavior and continue to present the instruction until the child complies

PARENT: "Eat the broccoli" CHILD: Refuses food & cries PARENT: "Eat the broccoli" CHILD: Eats the broccoli

(Turner, V.R., et al, 2020)

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#### De Los Santos & Silbaugh (2020)

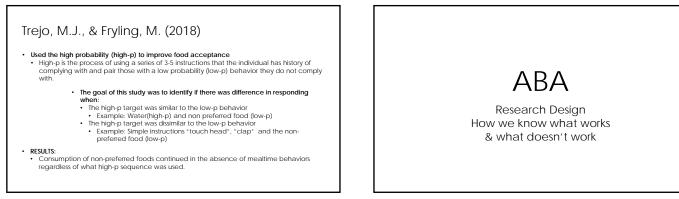
- Used differential reinforcement to improve food acceptance
   Differential reinforcement is the process of only delivering reinforcement for those responses that meet a specific criteria and placing all other responses on extinction.
- The goal of this study was to demonstrate that differential reinforcement could be used along with using a high preferred food without using escape extinction.

#### RESULTS:

- Demonstrated that differential reinforcement access to preferred foods

- Demonstrated that dimeteritian terinolcement access to prelene roods increased consumption of non-preferred foods.
  By conducting a formal preference assessment, an edible reinforcer was identified, resulting in increased food acceptance for target food.
  This was important because more intrusive interventions, like escape extinction was not necessary.

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### Single Case Design

- · Method that uses a small sample size to test the success of a treatment or intervention
- Also known as:
- Single-subject design .
- Within-subject design
- Intra-subject design

(Cooper, Heward & Heron 2019)

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#### Single Case Design

Why ABA uses more single case design methods over group designs:

- · Show the performance of an individual person
- · Show individual variability
- Show a relationship between an intervention and a change in behavior • Allows for attempts of replication

(Cooper, Heward & Heron 2019)

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	Single Case Design
	are multiple experimental designs that can be used in e case research:
• Con	liple baseline designs nponent analysis . Design
	(Cooper, Heward & Heron 2019)
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#### All BCBA's are not the same

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#### Practicing within our Scope

Behavior analysts, like many professions here today are expected to practice only within their identified scope of competence. BCBA's engage in new areas only after accessing & documenting appropriate study, training, supervised experience, consultation, and/or co-treatment from professionals competent in the new area. Otherwise, they refer or transition services to an appropriate professional.

Tereshko, L., Weiss, M.J., & Olive, M.L. (2021).

#### Practicing within our Scope

As feeding is a complex and multisystemic challenge, providing services for this presenting issue requires substantial additional study, training, and supervision and necessitates the expertise and input of several other disciplines.

- In addition, the clinician while not an expert, should have clinical knowledge in
  - fields that are directly related to feeding: Various medical conditions directly related to feeding issues
  - Sensory diagnosis that related to feeding
    Diet & nutritional knowledge
  - Behavior momentum

Tereshko, L., Weiss, M.J., & Olive, M.L. (2021)

## What ABA can do for the Assessment & Treatment of Feeding?

BCBA's focus on observing the environmental events that occur before & after the target behavior & can then help identify interventions through treatment plans and consultations. These assessments include but are not limited to ecological assessments, indirect and direct assessments.
 No, intervention or recommendation should occur without seeking a medial consultation if there is any reasonable possibility that a referred behavior is influenced by a medial or biological variable or assessment.

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# Where can I find a trained ABA therapist?

 V isit the Behavior Analyst Certification Board website and Click on "Find a Certificant" <u>https://www.bacb.com /</u>

• M ake sure they have these credentials after their name: BCBA

Questions to ask your Clinical Team

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Would my child/client benefit from having a BCBA consult? What t does have in & dic include superv

What training does the BCBA have in feeding & did that include direct supervision?

What methods do you use to treat feeding issues ? Will you consult with my clinical team?

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#### References

- Williams, K., & Seiverling, L. (2023). Behavior analytic feeding interventions: current state of the literature. Behavior Modification, 47(4), 983-101. <u>https://doi</u> 10.1177/01454455221098118
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THANK YOU