## STEPS OF A FUNCTIONAL BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT (FBA)

1. Identify and define challenging behavior

- Observable and measureable
  - o Inappropriate?
  - Distracting?
  - o Unexpected?
  - o Dangerous?
  - o Disruptive?
- What does it look like and sound like?
- Be objective, not subjective

2. Collect information about when the behavior occurs

- Observations
- Data collection
- Interviews with child, parents, staff, others
- Analyze patterns of behavior

**3.** Identify what is going on before and after the behavior occurs

Identify any slow or fast triggers

4. Learn about the student and what is going on in his/her life

- Mental
- Physical
- Skills
- Abilities
- Preferences
- Interests
- Quality of relationships, friendships, etc.

5. Come to a "best guess" about the purpose of the behavior and develop a statement that explains...

"When this is going on in this location this happens, the student does this and we think it means this."



