STEPS OF A FUNCTIONAL BEHAVIORAL ASSESSMENT (FBA)

1. Identify and define challenging behavior
   - Observable and measurable
     - Inappropriate?
     - Distracting?
     - Unexpected?
     - Dangerous?
     - 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
   - Identify any slow or fast triggers

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

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."