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Understanding Functional Assessments

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Understanding Functional Assessments

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As special education teachers, having students with behavior challenges is highly likely. Functional assessments are used to support individuals with their challenging behaviors. Therefore, it is important for teachers to understand what functional assessments are, when to use them, and how to use them. This OER is adapted from Chapter 2, The Methodology of Functional Assessment, of the book, Instruction in Functional Assessment by Desrochers and Fallon (2014). Chapter 2 answers the following questions:

- What is functional assessment?
- What are the three main functional assessment approaches and how are they used?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of each approach?
- What ethical considerations are necessary when implementing functional assessment?

Read [Chapter 2](#) and follow the instructions provided at the end of the chapter to complete the case study simulation and interpret a functional analysis. Upon completion of these assignments, create a thread on the discussion board, reflecting on your thoughts about this process and the implications for your current and/or future practice as an educator. Finally, respond with similarities and differences, constructive criticism, clarifying questions, or your own relevant thoughts to two of your classmates' posts.

The adapted portion comes from:

https://milnepublishing.geneseo.edu/instruction-in-functional-assessment/chapter/chapter-2the_methodology_of_functional_assessment/

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