

Self-Guided Orientation for Special Education Assistants
Section 10: Challenging Behavior

Some students with significantly difficult behaviors will have a written Positive Behavior Intervention Plan.

In dealing with challenging behaviors, it is important to get at the source of the problem. Questions to ask to find out why a behavior occurred are:

1. What happened _____?
2. What was the _____?
3. What was the _____?

Some possible factors contributing to a student using unexpected behavior are:

- Physical _____
- Difficulties _____
- _____
- Desire to _____ or _____
- Change in _____

Another one of your roles is to help teach the students more appropriate and equally effective ways of communicating their needs.

One situation you want to be sure to avoid is getting into a power struggle.

More strategies you can try are:

- Help the student _____
- ASK the student _____
- Re-_____ the student
- _____ the student
- Provide _____

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TIPS

Avoid _____

Take cues from _____

Be a _____

Anticipate _____ that may lead to a difficult situation.

Provide _____ reinforcement

Communicate _____

Be an _____ !

Dos & Don't for Managing Challenging Behavior



DO.....

- Redirect to Classroom / School Rules
- Anticipate “warning signs”
- Identify Strategies that may prevent incidents
- Communicate expectations
- Help the student CALM down and remain calm yourself!
- Take cues from the teacher or ask the teacher for assistance
- Be a detective – what is the student trying to communicate?
- Follow BIP

Don't.....

- Get into a power struggle
- Use physical means to control behavior
- Give student negative feedback, or reprimand, in front of other students.
- Take the student's misbehavior personally