9 years old

Our main challenge with this student is
Has difficulty completing or staying on tasks. Even when tasks are modified he is dependent on an adult to help him throughout the task. He throws tantrums and rips up work when he is agitated or does not get attention. Also has sensory issues – has meltdowns about shoes, tight tops. When we did a simple FBA, task avoidance was the major function.

Describe the behaviour so someone else can understand what it looks like
-Throws tantrums (under the table, rips up work, fold his arms, draws on table, climbs cricket nets, swearing at other students, withdraws himself from everyone) and may exit room or sulk for some time before he can regulate himself to join the class. This behaviour can then carry out during play time – including chasing other children to hit them when things have gone wrong socially. Is highly dependent on teachers or ES to provide one to one support and if it is not received, he will refuse to comply. Staff at times have found they can't leave him to attend to others, because he will meltdown as soon as they leave his table or give attention to anyone else.

Academically this child is
Low due to many reasons e.g. high absenteeism, sensory issues and at least 12 months behind. However, he has good general knowledge and loves talking on topics of interest when he has the chance.

Things we have already put in place are
Beginning a weekly contract which includes ensuring he takes a break after each learning task he undertakes, letting him earn non tangible (high on peer attention) rewards for work done, involving Family member with the contract, etc.
Lunch time program to give him good quality peer time in supported situations for half of lunch each day.
1:1 with school social worker weekly.
Application for severe behaviour funding to increase integration aide support if possible
Simple urgent FBA – included providing more choice (contract), reducing reinforcement of target behaviour, reducing work, increasing pro social peer support and mentors.

We believe the level of parent support might be
Inconsistent due to Family member's own issues. (Jail time, substance abuse) and frustration with STUDENT's sensory issues and behaviour. He says he doesn't have any behaviour problems at home (other than the sensory struggles such as an hour to put on shoes at times) and school refusal.

Any other comments or questions
We are currently tackling transitioning him back to school and began implementing a flexible contract (Task board) today. Thinking he might be anxious, have a low self-esteem, attachment issues with Family member, prefers adult attention rather than kids his age, cannot maintain social friendship with kids his age but very good with younger kids.

Trigger	Target	impacT
Sensory issues/frustrations with work completion	Tactile defensiveness (looks like tantrums, ripping up papers etc.)	To escape demands
Revise the Environment	**Replace the Behavior**	**Reframe the Response**
Question- Do you have fluorescent lights? Can you move him to be seated under an area where the fluorescent lights have been removed? If he has sensory issues- it's possible that is part of the trigger (he may not even know)- they hum and flicker. You can just have the bulbs unscrewed. Let him take his shoes off while he's in school. (Taking off your shoes and wiggling our toes reduces anxiety) Try flexible seating. This may allow him to get some proprioceptive movement and decrease some of his impulsive behaviors.	Teach him how to use a fidget tool when he starts to get frustrated. Teach him how to breathe to calm himself down. Teach him how to use his words: ● I feel _____ ● When _____ ● I need _____ ● To be successful. I make cards with these words on them to help them when they are first learning.	Praise for any approximation of overriding his impulsive behaviors. Praise for using any of his fidget tools or breathing techniques. Praise for using his words when he's having difficulty.

These are all just a small portion of the interventions we can put in place. Didn't want to overwhelm – but thought I'd start with several for each one.

Check out all our sensory ideas on www.behaviordoctor.org – click differing abilities- then scroll to sensory.

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