Collecting Data Using an Antecedent-Behavior-Consequence Observation

Conduct a 20–30 minute ABC observation. You may observe your family or friends, or with permission from a child’s teacher, you may observe a child in an early childhood classroom. Follow the steps below to complete your observation, and then answer the reflection questions that follow.

1. Print the ABC Analysis Data Sheet provided at the end of this lesson.

2. Decide whom you will observe. Describe here.

3. Decide what behavior you are going to observe (choose only one behavior that is likely to occur at least a few times during your observation). For example, you might want to observe a behavior such as pushing or yelling. Describe here.

4. Decide how long you are going to observe (should be 20–30 minutes). Describe here.

5. Find a place where you can comfortably see the child you have decided to observe. Describe here.

6. Fill out the top portion of the ABC Analysis Data Sheet, including the date, time, and behavior that you will be observing.
7. As you observe, write down the antecedents, behavior, and consequences as they occur.

**Reflection Questions**

8. How did it go? What worked well, and what did not work well?

9. What kinds of information did you write down?

10. What will you do differently if you have to do this type of observation again?