



Example Worksheet for Developing Hypothesis Statements

A Hypothesis statement is a summary of the team's understanding of the challenging behavior and the way that the challenging behavior is currently influenced by the environment.

When: Antecedent events that are observed that lead to challenging behavior.

Then: Description of the behavior

As a result of: The typical consequence that reinforces the behavior.

Complete Hypothesis Statement:



Worksheet for Developing Hypothesis Statements

A Hypothesis statement is a summary of the team's understanding of the challenging behavior and the way that the challenging behavior is currently influenced by the environment.

When: Something in the environment occurs (antecedent event).

When Scarlett is asked to sit and listen or orally participate in teacher-directed reading activities.

Then: description of the behavior Scarlett uses fingers to pick at her nose or the skin on her hands. Scarlett will place hands in close proximity to face.

As a result of: The typical consequence that reinforces the behavior.

The behavior is primarily ignored, but sometimes redirected with a prompt to stop the Bx.

Complete Hypothesis Statement:

When Scarlett is asked to sit and listen or orally participate in teacher directed reading activities, she will use her fingers to pick her nose or the skin on her hands or place her hands close to her face. As a result, the behavior is ignored or Scarlett is prompted to stop the behavior.

Cooper, J. O., Heron, T. E., & Heward, W. L. (2007). *Applied behavior analysis*, 2nd ed. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson Prentice Hall . Pgs. 65-69. Pal:Target Behavior Worksheet.docx

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