UK Society for Behaviour Analysis

PEOPLE WITH LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

There are an estimated 1.5 million people with a learning disability in the UK (NHS, 2020). Learning disabilities are also referred to as intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Some people with autism spectrum disorder also have IDD. Behaviour analysis has been used to support people with IDD for some time and has been used to address a number of behavioural needs. For example, ABA methods have been used to teach people leisure, self-care, daily living, communication, and vocational skills. For children with IDD, additional targets for skill acquisition might include academic and pre-academic behaviours. Additionally, ABA methods have been used to assess and reduce the incidence of behaviour that challenges. There is a body of research demonstrating the use of ABA for people with particular needs, for example people with profound and multiple disabilities and people with IDD linked to a specific genetic syndrome (e.g. Down syndrome).

KEY RESOURCES & PUBLICATIONS

Cognitive and adaptive behavior outcomes of behavioral intervention for young children with intellectual disability
https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/20051523/

A systematic review of behaviour analytic interventions for young children with intellectual disabilities
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/jir.12780

A behavioral approach to identifying sources of happiness and unhappiness among individuals with profound multiple disabilities

https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0145445599232006.

Reduction of severe behavior problems in the community using a multicomponent treatment approach

https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1297735/

Effects of intervention intensity on skill acquisition and task persistence in children with Down syndrome

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jar.12607

Teaching responses to questions to young children with Down syndrome

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/bin.1368

Requesting and Verbal Imitation Intervention for Infants with Down syndrome: Generalization, Intelligibility, and Problem Solving

https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10882-014-9400-6

Advancing imitation and requesting skills in toddlers with Down syndrome

https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/21820858/

Trial-based functional analysis and functional communication training in an early childhood setting
https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1901/jaba.2012.45-579

Training play behavior in a 5-year old boy with developmental disabilities

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1901/jaba.2003.36-367

Effectiveness of Emotion Recognition Training for Young Children with Developmental Delays

https://doi.apa.org/fulltext/2014-52728-008.html

Improvements in mealtime behaviors of children with special needs following a day-center-based behavioral intervention for feeding problems

https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30667396/

Effects of serial and concurrent training on receptive identification tasks: A Systematic replication

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jaba.401

The Use of Response Prompting and Frames for Teaching Sentence Writing to Students with Moderate Intellectual Disability

https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/1088357616673568