

The ABCs of Behaviour

- **Antecedent** (Anything that happens immediately before the behaviour that maintains it.)
Setting Events (Anything that can change the behaviour momentarily; e.g., illness, temperature)
- **Behaviour** (An observable event that everyone is able to recognize.)
- **Consequence** (Anything that happens after the behaviour that maintains it.)

ANTECEDENT	BEHAVIOUR	CONSEQUENCE
Jim is asked by staff to take a shower.	Jim screams and throws the items in his room on the floor.	Staff stop asking him to take a shower and let him watch TV
The function of behaviour is avoidance – Jim has effectively avoided taking a shower.		
Cindy is asked to participate in a craft with the group.	Cindy bangs her head on the tray of her wheelchair.	The instructor gives her a hug and cuddles her until she stops.
The function of behaviour is attention – Cindy has effectively maintained the instructor’s attention.		