**Student Interview**

*This sample form is intended to show only what types of questions are typically asked during a student interview. Most actual interviews include many more questions.*

**Date:** 4/18/20XX

**Student:** Isaiah

**Grade:** 7

**Interviewer:** R. Turner, Special Education teacher

**Directions:** Before the interview, fill in the blanks below with student-friendly descriptions of the behavior being assessed. Follow each step below to complete the interview with the student, recording the student’s answers below each question.

**Introduce the interview to the student**: “I want to talk with you today so that we can find ways to help you be more successful at school. You can help us do that if you are honest about how you feel and what you do at school. Nothing that you tell me will get you in trouble.”

**Explain the behavior being assessed**: **“**We’re here to talk about your physical behavior, which includes beating your hands on the desk, pushing things off the table, and kicking at furniture.”

1. When is it easiest for you to follow directions safely at school?

Interviewer note: I rephrased this question to “When do you not feel like pushing or kicking things?” and used visual cards to provide Isaiah with some choices. He selected computer, drawing, writing, and reading and also stated, “When it’s fun.”

1. Why do you think that is?

Interviewer note: I rephrased this question to “Why are those things easier for you?” Isaiah responded, “I like them. It’s fun.”

1. When is it hardest for you to follow directions safely at school?

Interviewer note: I rephrased this question to “When do you feel like pushing or kicking things?” Isaiah responded, “When I’m mad.” I asked him what makes him mad, and he replied, “When I don’t like it.”

1. Why do you think that is?

Interviewer note: I rephrased this question to ask, “Why do you think you push things or kick things when you don’t like something?” Isaiah replied, “Because I hate it!” I did not press more, as he showed signs of frustration with this line of questioning.

1. What are your favorite activities at school?

Interviewer note: I rephrased this question to “What do you like to do at school?” Isaiah again pointed to the visual cards for drawing and writing and stated, “I want to make my stories.”

*This interview was adapted from* [*O’Neill et al. (2015)*](https://www.cengage.com/c/functional-assessment-and-program-development-for-problem-behavior-a-practical-handbook-3e-o-neill-albin-storey-horner-sprague/9781285734828/) *and* [*Kern et al. (1994)*](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdoi.org%2F10.1177%2F073724779401900203&data=05%7C02%7Cnicholas.m.shea%40Vanderbilt.Edu%7Cb10f8afc49bd42c2038208dd924f52a6%7Cba5a7f39e3be4ab3b45067fa80faecad%7C0%7C0%7C638827591593216914%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiIwLjAuMDAwMCIsIlAiOiJXaW4zMiIsIkFOIjoiTWFpbCIsIldUIjoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=C2vPL33ywFb4ODV%2Bstg9sgBiXoSYyyKzJSVn5IXph2I%3D&reserved=0)*.*