Philosophy of Behavior Analysis

Aligned with BACB® 5th Edition Task List Item A-2 (BACB®, 2017)

Directions: For this skill area, you will want to train the supervisee on the philosophical assumptions relate to the science of behavior analysis (BACB®, 2017). Use the model below to help frame your Behavioral Skills Training in this area with the supervisee. Row 2 provides you with prompts for each column. The subsequent rows should be used to document what was done at each step in the Behavioral Skills Training model to provide instruction to the supervisee along with a performance rating of the supervisee. You can use the additional rows or add additional rows as needed if you need to continue to provide training in this area to the supervisee until mastery is achieved.

Date(s)	Time(s)	Instruction	Modeling	Rehearsal	Feedback	Performance Rating
Indicate the date(s) that you worked on this skill with the supervisee.	*Indicate the time(s) that you worked on this skill with the supervisee.*	*Please detail here how you will provide instruction to the supervisee on this concept and how the concept was explained to the supervisee.*	*Please detail how you gave the supervisee the opportunity to observe the skill being demonstrated.*	*Please detail how the supervisee practiced the skill that you trained them in.*	*Please document your feedback to the supervisee and how you provided feedback.*	*Please rate the supervisee's level of performance here by writing the number in the box(es) below.*
__/__/__	___:___am/pm to ___:___am/pm		☐ In Vivo Training ☐ Video Model ☐ Role Play ☐ Other (please specify):		☐ Verbally ☐ Written **Narrative of Feedback:**	☐ 5=Mastered ☐ 4=Highly Proficient ☐ 3=Proficient ☐ 2=Emerging Proficiency ☐ 1=Minimal Proficiency ☐ 0=No Knowledge
__/__/__	___:___am/pm to ___:___am/pm		☐ In Vivo Training ☐ Video Model ☐ Role Play ☐ Other (please specify):		☐ Verbally ☐ Written **Narrative of Feedback:**	☐ 5=Mastered ☐ 4=Highly Proficient ☐ 3=Proficient ☐ 2=Emerging Proficiency ☐ 1=Minimal Proficiency ☐ 0=No Knowledge
__/__/__	___:___am/pm to ___:___am/pm		☐ In Vivo Training ☐ Video Model ☐ Role Play ☐ Other (please specify):		☐ Verbally ☐ Written **Narrative of Feedback:**	☐ 5=Mastered ☐ 4=Highly Proficient ☐ 3=Proficient ☐ 2=Emerging Proficiency ☐ 1=Minimal Proficiency ☐ 0=No Knowledge

Additional Comments on Supervisee's Performance:

Possible Assignments for Supervisee with Corresponding Performance Ratings

Below are some sample assignments/activities for your supervisee to complete related to the corresponding skill and you can check off the performance rating on the assignment. You can use the blank rows or add additional rows to put your own assignments that you give the supervisee.

Assignment Ideas	Performance Rating on Assignment (Check off the rating in the columns below)						Additional Comments
	0 = No Knowledge	1 = Minimal Proficiency	2 = Emerging Proficiency	3 = Proficient	4 = Highly Proficient	5 = Mastered	
Supervisee completes a worksheet defining each of these elements and provides examples in everyday life and clinical case examples from clients they are working with (see sample worksheet in this section).							
Supervisee conducts an article review from a behavior analytic journal and identifies the philosophical assumptions underlying the science of behavior analysis (e.g., selectionism, determinism, empiricism, parsimony, pragmatism) demonstrated within an article (see *Evidence-Based Journal Article Review Worksheet* in supervision activities folder)							

Assignment Ideas	Performance Rating on Assignment (Check off the rating in the columns below)						Additional Comments
	0 = No Knowledge	1 = Minimal Proficiency	2 = Emerging Proficiency	3 = Proficient	4 = Highly Proficient	5 = Mastered	
Supervisee demonstrates ability to explain and train others on the philosophical assumptions underlying the science of behavior analysis (e.g., selectionism, determinism, empiricism, parsimony, pragmatism) to an RBT.							

Concept & Terminology Worksheet

Directions: As a supervisee, it is important for you to develop an understanding of foundational knowledge of behavior analysis. This activity is designed for you to further develop your ability to define and provide examples of terminology and concepts in behavior analysis. Please complete the worksheet below related to the ABA concepts and how it can be seen in clients that you are working with.

Terminology	Technical Definition	Simplified Definition (for parents or non-ABA persons)	Everyday Life Example	Examples Specific to Client Cases You Are Working On
Selectionism				
Determinism				
Empiricism				
Parsimony				
Pragmatism				

Suggested Readings

Here is a list of suggested readings for you and your supervisee to review related to this skill area. This list consists of suggestions and is not exhaustive. Hyperlinks are provided to publicly available PDFs of the readings by either the link from the names of the authors or the DOI. Or links to the abstracts or links to purchase books are also provided. If a link does not work, please email info@brianconnersbcba.com so I can update the link(s) as needed or if available.

Delprato, D. J., & Midgley, B. D. (1992). Some fundamentals of B. F. Skinner's behaviorism. *American Psychologist, 47*(11), 1507–1520. https://doi.org/10.1037/0003-066X.47.11.1507

Moxley, R.A. (2001). Sources for Skinner's pragmatic selectionism in 1945. *The Behavior Analyst*, *24*, 201–212. https://doi.org/10.1007/BF03392031

Moxley, R. A. (2004). Pragmatic selectionism: The philosophy of behavior analysis. *The Behavior Analyst Today, 5*(1), 108-125. http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/h0100137

Tryon, W. W. (2002). Expanding the explanatory base of behavior analysis via modern connectionism: Selectionism as a common explanatory core. *The Behavior Analyst Today, 3*(1), 104-118. http://dx.doi.org/10.1037/h0099963

Suggested Podcasts

Here is a list of suggested podcast episodes for you and your supervisee to listen to and review related to this skill area. This list consists of suggestions and is not exhaustive. Hyperlinks are provided to the podcast websites for access. If a link does not work, please email info@brianconnersbcba.com so I can update the link(s) as needed or if available.

Kubina, R. (Host). (2020, March 16). *Ep. 10: Revisiting Fundamentals of B. F. Skinner's Behaviorism* [Audio podcast]. CentralReach "ABA On Call" Podcast. https://centralreach.libsyn.com/centralreach-aba-on-call-podcast-ep-10-revisiting-fundamentals-of-b-f-skinners-behaviorism

Normand, M. (Host). (2008, December). *Dr. David Palmer Discusses a Selectionist Account of Learning.* [Audio podcast]. Current Directions in Behavioral Science. http://www.theskinnerbox.com/podcasts/cdbs_05_dec2008_dpalmer.m4a

References

Behavior Analyst Certification Board. (2017). *BCBA/BCaBA task list* (5th ed.). Littleton, CO: Author.