

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)...

is the design, implementation, and evaluation of systematic environmental modifications for the purpose of producing socially significant improvements in and understanding of human behavior based on the principles of behavior identified through the experimental analysis of behavior (Florida Department of Children and Families).

It can help...

children with a variety of needs who have a variety of diagnoses including autism, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, and intellectual disabilities. Treatment may include assessments and programs geared toward behavior reduction (i.e. self injury, aggression, property destruction) and/or behavior acquisition (i.e. communication, daily living skills, following directions).

Treatment outcomes...

should be measured and evaluated on an ongoing basis. Frequency of services should be objectively defined and progress should be monitored to ensure effective treatment.

Insurance coverage...

should focus on an individual child's need for services, not a diagnosis. Labels do little to describe a child's needs and our focus should instead be on identifying these needs, using evidence based practices to provide treatment and collecting objective measures to evaluate progress.

