2025-2026 Project EMPOWER+Professional Learning Series

# A 6-Step Instructional Approach for Responding to Challenging Behavior:

# A Tier 1 Practice

# Session 5

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| **Date:** February 10, 2026  **Time:** 2:30-4:30 PM Pacific ▵ 4:30-6:30 PM Central ▵ 5:30-7:30 PM Eastern  **Location: Zoom**  Prepared and presented by members of the Ci3T Research Team: Elise Sarasin, M.S.E & Kathleen Lynne Lane, Ph.D., BCBA-D, CF-L2 |

**Audience**: This professional learning series is offered at no cost to preK-12 educators, administrators, related service providers, paraprofessionals, and parents/guardians interested in learning more about proactive, systematic methods of looking for students who might require additional assistance to experience success in school. Each session provides stand-alone information to build knowledge, skill sets, and confidence in developing structures and practices to meet students’ multiple academic, behavior, and social-emotional well-being needs effectively and efficiently within a Comprehensive, Integrated, Three-Tiered (Ci3T) Model of Prevention.

## AGENDA

* Welcome
* Building Understanding of Challenging Behaviors: A-B-Cs
* Describing a 6-step Instructional Approach for Responding to Challenging Behavior
* Connecting Students to More Intensive Interventions
* Wrapping Up and Moving Forward

## SESSION DESCRIPTION

Even when we implement a range of strategies effectively to prevent challenging

behavior, there will still be times when disruptions occur. We introduce a 6-step

instructional approach for responding to challenging behavior designed for all adults

who provide instruction to students. We describe each step in this practical, effective

approach in detail with examples, non-examples, and tips for successful

implementation. How you first respond can contribute to whether the behavior will

escalate or de-escalate! We also provide connections to Tier 2 (e.g., self-monitoring) and Tier 3 (e.g., individualized de-escalation plan) resources.

## Learning objectives

1. Describe a 6-step instructional approach for responding to challenging behaviors
2. Identify what to do (examples), why to do it, and what not to do (non-examples) for each step.
3. Describe potential Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions for students needing more than Tier 1 practices.

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| Project EMPOWER Professional Learning Series Schedule  Location: Zoom  Attended by: District and school Ci3T Leadership Teams, teachers, administrators, related service providers, paraprofessionals, and parents/guardians | Time  2:30-4:30 PM Pacific  4:30-6:30 PM Central  5:30-7:30 PM Eastern  Date |
| 1. Starting Strong: Effective Tier 1 Practices for Educators | September 24, 2025 |
| 1. From Data to Action: Using Systematic Screening to Inform Instruction | October 8, 2025 |
| 1. Ci3T In Action: Integrated Lesson Planning for Enhanced Instruction | November 18, 2025 |
| 1. Mastering Behavior Specific Praise and Precorrection | January 21, 2026 |
| 1. A 6-Step Instructional Approach for Responding to Challenging Behaviors: A Tier 1 Practice | February 10, 2026 |
| 1. A Tier 2 Support for Students Experiencing Anxious Feelings: Recognize. Relax. Record. | March 25, 2026 |
| 1. A Tier 3 Support for Students with Intensive Intervention Needs: Functional Assessment-Based Intervention (FABI) | April 28, 2026 |

Visit [ci3t.org/pl](https://www.ci3t.org/pl) for more information on each session and to register.

## BCBA CEUs

Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) attending this session may accrue up to 2 learning continuing education units (CEU). Please reach out to Stacie Williams ([stacie.w@ku.edu](mailto:stacie.w@ku.edu)) and Allison Bernard ([allison.bernard@ku.edu](mailto:allison.bernard@ku.edu)) with questions or for more information.

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| BCBA Task List (6th ed.) |
| G.1 Design and evaluate positive and negative reinforcement procedures |
| H.7 Make data-based decisions about the effectiveness of the intervention and the need for modification. |