
Behaviors Of Concern: Is It Autism? Does It Matter?

Every parent has hopes and dreams for their child, so learning that your child may face developmental challenges can be unsettling. However, research has shown that when children have behavioral or developmental problems, getting help early can make a significant difference in their life.

For children with autism or suspected of having autism, it is especially important to get an assessment and start therapy as soon as possible. Autism is not just a behavioral condition but can affect learning, communication, social interaction, sensory function, motor skills and health.

Many people with autism have impressive strengths. They might have a great memory, pay close attention to details, have strong morals, or show talent in art, technology, math and science, or other areas. They are often known for being trustworthy, loyal and kind.

However, for some children, autistic symptoms and behaviors may interfere with their developmental progress. This can have a negative impact on their learning, relationships and the acquisition of the skills and abilities they need to succeed at home, in school and in the community.

Interventions based on the science of applied behavior analysis (ABA) have been shown to help children with autism in many positive ways. Behavior therapies like these can help ensure they have the best developmental experience possible and support their individuality. It can also ease stress for families.

Treatment is tailored to each child's specific needs, with goals developed in collaboration with the family and overseen by a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA). Progress is monitored regularly, and treatment plans are updated every six months.

Family involvement is essential to extend the benefits outside of therapy sessions and support the child's success in daily life. **The ultimate goal of therapy is to prepare the child for their future, enabling them to develop the skills needed to thrive independently and succeed on their own terms.** Early, personalized intervention helps children with autism reach their full potential.

For more information, ask your child's healthcare professional.