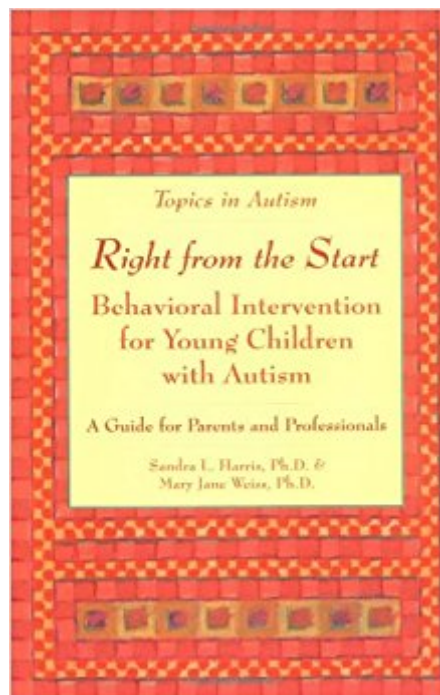




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# Right From The Start: Behavioral Intervention For Young Children With Autism (Topics In Autism)



## Synopsis

Written in an accessible and friendly style, *Right from the Start* explains how the teaching method known as intensive behavioral intervention (IBI) can benefit young children with autism and related disorders. This includes all children whose diagnosis falls within the broad spectrum of Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD), especially those five and younger. This guide begins by discussing applied behavioral analysis (ABA), the central component of intensive behavioral intervention. Readers learn how ABA can be used to teach speech and language, social, motor, and adaptive skills through a system of repetition, reward, and goal adjustment. The descriptions of a real-life family going through the process of understanding their young child's diagnosis and choosing an intensive behavioral intervention program bolster the confidence of other parents in making their own evaluations. And "parent statements" included in each chapter offer important empathy. The authors also discuss what families should consider before choosing any treatment method for their child with autism, and specifically what key elements an IBI program should have. Curriculum, professional roles, parent involvement, inclusion, and the pros and cons of a home-based versus center-based program are all covered. A glossary of terms commonly used in autism research and education helps to demystify what at first seems like an intimidating subject. All in all, this practical and authoritative guide will save parents much time and worry in their search to help their young child with autism.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

[The authors] continue to skillfully guide parents through the complex process of understanding the differences among ABA programs and selecting the right program based on the individual needs of the child and the family. --Autism Asperger Digest, September 2007

With autism diagnoses at an all-time high, this updated second edition will be invaluable to parents searching for relevant information. Harris and Weiss, both directors of the Douglass Developmental Disabilities Center at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, know firsthand the importance of early intervention in autism. The current research they provide highlights the effectiveness of Early Intensive Behavioral Intervention, an autism treatment program based on Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) for preschoolers with autism. Deciding to use ABA with a child requires research and reflection; this book will assist parents in creating and implementing an ABA program in their home and in selecting instructors and professional consultants. It will also help them evaluate public school programs and the pros and cons of a home-based vs. a center-based program. Most helpful are the personal anecdotes from parents detailing their experiences with autism and ABA. Any parent of a newly diagnosed toddler or preschooler would benefit from the information here when considering his or her child's treatment program. Highly recommended for public libraries, even those owning the first edition. --Library Journal, April 1, 2007

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A Review... "This 'Guide for Parents and Professionals' constitutes an excellent overview of and introduction to early behavioral intervention. Well-written in a friendly style, this book avoids the

harsh rhetoric often accompanying discussions of behavioral intervention for children with autism. The authors are strong advocates for their approach, but they also admit that this method does not work well for all children with autism. Unlike many other writers on this subject, they accept flexibility and individualized planning and programming, and they advocate inclusion with nondisabled peers as early as possible. Not all educators would accept the assumption that intervention methods must be supported by rigorous research, but most would agree that there must be some demonstrated efficacy. All in all, this book is a very useful, humane beginning for parents and early childhood teachers." --Newsline (The Federation for Children with Special Needs), Fall 1998

Most people are confused over the science of behavior analysis and its relation to behavior modification. This book, on the page of behavior management (p.156), clearly demonstrates the difference and why the name changed to applied behavior analysis (ABA) which is not only used for autism treatment; it addresses the "antecedent" aspect of operant conditioning. It states, "How challenging behavior is handled during ABA instruction changed dramatically since behavior modification was first used in teaching children with autism spectrum disorders. In the past, the focus was simply on reducing behavior that interfered with learning or was otherwise disruptive or dangerous. Now, the focus is on understanding behavior and preventing its occurrence (O'Neill et al., 1992)." There are some books on ABA (and on ) which INACCURATELY state that ABA is a form of behavior modification used for autistic children. Don't buy them. The authors are using outdated terminology. A book on Behavior Analysis published by the American Psychological Association (APA) in 2012 even states that ABA is used anywhere from "treating autism to substance abuse."

I bought this textbook for a college class and it came exactly as described. Giving a review of a textbook is difficult because no matter what the subject, sometimes the material can be dry. However, I did pass the class, so that's another point towards this textbook! The excerpts from parents/families who have autistic children were informative and helpful, and probably one of the best parts of the book, as it is real-life knowledge.

BUT, if you know about ABA and have read "The Me Book" from Lovaas or "Let me hear your voice" from Maurice - this book is not for you. So let me talk to you if you are a newbie to autism. This book is GREAT because it explains in ENGLISH the basics on ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysis) treatment for autism. It reviews case studies on choices, how to get started, funding, and

other extremely important topics for newbies. It is a great book that I give to new parents with children affected with autism ALL THE TIME. But remember: if you are an advanced person been doing the autism and ABA journey for awhile, this book is NOT for you....

I am a speech pathologist and work with a wide variety of children with varying disorders. Not only is this book helpful while working with the autistic child it has also proven helpful with the other children as well. Each child I work with brings their own unique behavior issues...this book is a good book to have on hand when I need additional ideas. I would highly recommend this book to anyone working with children.

If you are seeking intervention for a child who has been diagnosed in the Autism Spectrum, you should do as much research as possible into all interventions. This book describes in ordinary English what an Applied Behavioral Analysis program should look like, and what the parent or guardian of a child afflicted with Autism should be looking for in an ABA program. This book was a tremendous help to my husband and me when we evaluated our school district's ABA program and other ABA programs in our region. I highly recommend it to anyone learning about ABA. Prof. Harris has been a great help to me and is highly respected in the Autism community.

A book that any parent should read as it has lots of information for different programs and approaches to treat autism in one book.

I love it. This book is a perfect resource for the parents who has a child with difficulty . That

This is an excellent book! One of the best I've read (and that covers quite a few!). Excellent advice for Parents just starting out in the maze of Autism treatments and also wonderful for professionals. Lots of practical advice "If someone promises you huge gains, run fast in the other direction". "Be a questioning critical consumer". Lots of excellent advice on choosing a program and fabulous comments from parents which capture the whole essence of dealing with Autism. This book tells us what we all know that the best thing for our children is to 'get in their faces' with early intensive behavioural intervention. Good luck fellow Parents!

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