

# **Early Childhood PBIS**BIRs (Behavior Incident Reports): Getting Started & FAQs



#### What is a Behavior Incident Report (BIRs)?

A simple data collection tool used to document serious (or ongoing) behavior incidents that can be used to support classrooms, programs and the needs of individual children.

#### When should I complete a BIRs form?

> **ALWAYS** when the following behaviors occur (bold on BIRS form):

Hurting Self (Ex; biting self, hitting self)

Physical Aggression (Ex; hitting, biting)

Elopement (leaving area without permission and not responding to request to return)

➤ If you try to <u>redirect</u> a child from the following behaviors and they <u>do not respond</u> to strategies you are using OR if the <u>frequency</u>, <u>intensity or duration of the behavior seems</u> unusual:

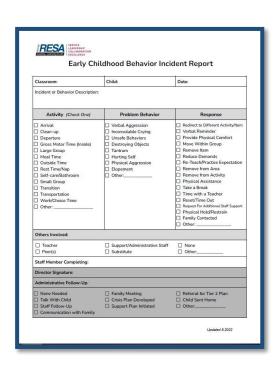
Verbal Aggression Inconsolable Crying Unsafe Behaviors Destroying Objects Tantrum

## What if I am unsure whether I should complete a BIRs form or not?

> If unsure; complete a form.

# I'm already so busy! I don't have time to collect data when challenging behaviors are happening...

➤ We understand! Keep several copies of the BIRs form in your classroom for easy access, the form should take less than 30 seconds to complete.





#### I teach Early Childhood Special Education, when should I be completing a BIRs form?

Because the developmental needs of children could vary greatly in these settings, work with your immediate supervisor to establish what would be a change in frequency, intensity and duration for behaviors that may exist in your specific classroom/program.

#### Is the list of responses and administrative follow-up a recommended list?

➤ No. These lists are intended to capture the range of actions that may occur only.

### The behavior started at one time of the day and continued into another. How should I document this?

Select the one activity during which the behavior <u>began</u>. If a behavior continued for an extended period of time, this may be important information to record in the 'description' section.

## I used more than one response strategy or more than one behavior happened at the same time; how do I document this?

You can select more than one problem behavior or response on the form. Try to limit the problem behavior(s) selected to those that happened at the start of the incident.

#### How much information is needed in the description section?

The minimum amount of information needed to share any additional information you feel is important about the behavior incident you are recording is all that is needed. This may be as simple as, "bit child when wanting toy."

#### I turned in a BIRs form, but I have no idea what happens with it after that.

- > BIRs can be used a few different ways.
  - 1. Your leadership team collects BIRs from all teachers in the program. They enter this information into a database that creates graphs of the data. From there, they can determine how the entire program is working to decrease challenging behavior and promote social emotional learning.
  - 2. If you have a concern about a specific child, the BIRs for that child will help you, your team, and the child's family understand specific information about the behavior. For example, sometimes it feels like the behavior happens all day long but when you look at the BIRs, you see that the behavior mostly occurs during large group time. You can better plan for what to re-teach or when to provide supports with this information.
  - 3. Most programs set up a system for checking in with the teacher if there are multiple BIRs for the child. Teachers meet with their classroom coach, behavior specialist, or similar professional who can assist the teacher in figuring out what to do to address the behavior.