

principles of behavior analysis

Unlocking Human Behavior: A Deep Dive into the Principles of Behavior Analysis

Introduction:

Have you ever wondered why we do the things we do? What drives our actions, our habits, our reactions? The answer lies in the fascinating field of Behavior Analysis. This isn't just about understanding quirky behaviors; it's about unlocking the power to shape behavior effectively and ethically, for ourselves and others. This comprehensive guide will delve into the core principles of behavior analysis, equipping you with a practical understanding of how behavior works and how you can leverage this knowledge in various aspects of life. We'll explore the fundamental concepts, practical applications, and ethical considerations crucial for navigating this powerful field. Prepare to unravel the mysteries of human behavior and discover how to influence it positively and responsibly.

I. The Foundation: Defining Behavior Analysis

Behavior analysis is a scientific approach to understanding behavior. It's based on the principles of learning and focuses on observable actions and their environmental antecedents (what comes before) and consequences (what comes after). Unlike many other approaches that delve into internal thoughts and feelings, behavior analysis primarily examines the interaction between an organism and its environment. This focus on observable behaviors allows for objective measurement and analysis, making it a highly effective tool for understanding and changing behavior.

II. The Key Principles: Understanding the ABCs of Behavior

The core of behavior analysis rests on understanding the relationship between Antecedents, Behaviors, and Consequences (ABCs).

Antecedents: These are the events or stimuli that precede a behavior. For example, the sight of a delicious cake (antecedent) might lead to a craving (behavior).

Behaviors: This is the observable action itself – the craving, reaching for the cake, eating the cake. Behavior analysis focuses on measurable actions, not internal states.

Consequences: These are the events that follow a behavior and influence the likelihood of that behavior occurring again. Eating the cake (behavior) might lead to feelings of satisfaction (positive consequence), increasing the likelihood of eating cake in the future. Alternatively, experiencing a stomach ache (negative consequence) might decrease the likelihood of repeating the behavior.

III. Operant Conditioning: Shaping Behavior Through Consequences

Operant conditioning is a central principle in behavior analysis. It explains how consequences shape behavior. There are two main types:

Reinforcement: This increases the likelihood of a behavior occurring again. Positive reinforcement involves adding something desirable (e.g., praise, reward) after a behavior. Negative reinforcement involves removing something aversive (e.g., loud noise, annoying task) after a behavior. Note: Negative reinforcement is NOT punishment.

Punishment: This decreases the likelihood of a behavior occurring again. Positive punishment involves adding something aversive (e.g., scolding, extra chores) after a behavior. Negative punishment involves removing something desirable (e.g., taking away phone privileges, grounding) after a behavior. Punishment, while effective in the short term, often has negative side effects and should be used cautiously and ethically.

IV. Classical Conditioning: Learning Through Association

Classical conditioning, pioneered by Ivan Pavlov, explains how we learn through association. It involves pairing a neutral stimulus with a naturally occurring stimulus that evokes a response. Eventually, the neutral stimulus alone elicits the response. For example, Pavlov's dogs learned to associate the sound of a bell (neutral stimulus) with food (naturally occurring stimulus), eventually salivating (response) at the sound of the bell alone.

V. Extinction and Spontaneous Recovery: Understanding Behavior Change Over Time

Extinction occurs when a previously reinforced behavior no longer receives reinforcement, leading to a decrease in the behavior's frequency. However, spontaneous recovery can occur, where the behavior reappears after a period of extinction. Understanding these processes is crucial for maintaining behavior change.

VI. Generalization and Discrimination: Applying Learned Behaviors

Generalization refers to the tendency to respond similarly to similar stimuli. For example, a child who learns to fear a large dog might also fear other large animals. Discrimination involves learning to respond differently to different stimuli. The child might learn to differentiate between friendly dogs and aggressive dogs, only fearing the latter.

VII. Ethical Considerations in Behavior Analysis

Ethical practice in behavior analysis is paramount. Professionals must prioritize the well-being of the individual and ensure that interventions are safe, effective, and respectful of their rights and

autonomy. This includes obtaining informed consent, ensuring confidentiality, and regularly evaluating the effectiveness and ethical implications of interventions.

VIII. Applications of Behavior Analysis: Beyond the Clinic

Behavior analysis is not limited to clinical settings. Its principles are applied across various fields:

Education: Shaping student learning, managing challenging behaviors.

Organizational behavior management: Improving workplace productivity and safety.

Sports psychology: Enhancing athletic performance.

Parenting: Guiding child development and managing behavioral challenges.

IX. The Future of Behavior Analysis: Ongoing Research and Development

The field of behavior analysis continues to evolve through ongoing research and development. New techniques and technologies are constantly being explored to refine and expand the application of these principles, further enhancing our ability to understand and positively influence behavior.

Book Outline: "Mastering the Principles of Behavior Analysis"

Introduction: What is Behavior Analysis? Why is it Important?

Chapter 1: The ABCs of Behavior: Antecedents, Behaviors, and Consequences

Chapter 2: Operant Conditioning: Reinforcement and Punishment

Chapter 3: Classical Conditioning: Learning Through Association

Chapter 4: Extinction, Spontaneous Recovery, Generalization, and Discrimination

Chapter 5: Ethical Considerations in Behavior Analysis

Chapter 6: Applications of Behavior Analysis across Diverse Fields

Chapter 7: Assessment and Intervention Strategies

Chapter 8: Case Studies and Practical Examples

Conclusion: The Future of Behavior Analysis and its Continued Relevance

Article Explaining Each Point of the Outline:

Each chapter in the proposed book would delve deeper into the topics outlined above, providing detailed explanations, examples, and practical applications of each principle. For instance, Chapter 2 on Operant Conditioning would include detailed explanations of different reinforcement and punishment schedules, their effects on behavior, and practical strategies for applying them effectively and ethically. Chapter 7 would provide a practical guide to assessing behavior and developing individualized intervention plans. Chapter 8 would showcase real-world case studies illustrating the successful application of behavior analysis principles in various settings.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. What is the difference between positive and negative reinforcement? Positive reinforcement

adds something desirable, while negative reinforcement removes something aversive to increase a behavior.

1. How is punishment different from negative reinforcement? Punishment decreases a behavior, while negative reinforcement increases a behavior by removing something aversive.
1. Can behavior analysis be used with animals? Yes, the principles of behavior analysis are widely applied in animal training and research.
1. Is behavior analysis effective for treating mental health conditions? Yes, behavior analysis-based therapies are effective for a range of mental health conditions, including anxiety, depression, and autism.
1. What are the ethical considerations in using punishment? Punishment should be used sparingly, only as a last resort, and always ethically, minimizing harm and maximizing the individual's well-being.
1. How can I learn more about behavior analysis? You can take courses, read books and articles, and attend workshops or conferences related to behavior analysis.
1. What are some careers in behavior analysis? Careers include behavior analysts, therapists, researchers, educators, and consultants in various fields.
1. Is behavior analysis deterministic? While behavior analysis emphasizes the influence of environmental factors, it doesn't deny the role of internal factors or free will. It offers a framework for understanding and influencing behavior, not a rigid prediction of all actions.
1. Can I use behavior analysis principles on myself? Absolutely! Self-management techniques based on behavior analysis principles can be very effective in achieving personal goals and changing unwanted habits.

Related Articles:

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1. Behavior Analysis and its Contribution to Positive Psychology: Examines the intersection of behavior analysis and positive psychology in promoting well-being.

principles of behavior analysis: Principles of Behavior Richard W. Malott, Kelly T. Kohler, 2021-03-31 Known for both its narrative style and scientific rigor, *Principles of Behavior* is the premier introduction to behavior analysis. Through an exploration of experimental, applied, and theoretical concepts, the authors summarize the key conversations in the field. They bring the content to life using humorous and engaging language and show students how the principles of behavior relate to their everyday lives. The text's tried-and-true pedagogy make the content as clear as possible without oversimplifying the concepts. Each chapter includes study objectives, key terms, and review questions that encourage students to check their understanding before moving on, and incorporated throughout the text are real-world examples and case studies to illustrate key concepts and principles. This edition features some significant organizational changes: the respondent conditioning chapter is now Chapter 1, a general introduction to operant conditioning is now covered in Chapters 2 and 3, and the introduction to research methods is now covered in Chapter 4. These changes were made to help instructors prepare students for starting a research project at the beginning of the course. Two new chapters include Chapter 5 on the philosophy supporting behavior analysis, and Chapter 24 on verbal behavior that introduces B.F. Skinner's approach and terminology. This edition also features a new full-color design and over 400 color figures, tables, and graphs. *Principles of Behavior* is an essential resource for both introductory and intermediate courses in behavior analysis. It is carefully tailored to the length of a standard academic semester and how behavior analysis courses are taught, with each section corresponding to a week's worth of coursework. The text can also function as the first step in a student's journey into becoming a professional behavior analyst at the BA, MA, or PhD/EdD level. Each chapter of the text is integrated with the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) task list, serving as an excellent primer to many of the BACB tasks. The text is supported by a set of PowerPoint slides with figures, tables, and graphs for every chapter and a robust test bank with multiple choice, fill in the blank, matching, and short answer questions for every chapter for a total of over 1,500 questions.

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principles of behavior analysis: Principles of Everyday Behavior Analysis L. Keith Miller, 1975 This revision of Miller's successful text has been extensively field tested, and is ideal for the freshman/sophomore level Behavioral Modification or Applied Behavior Analysis course. Light-hearted, yet comprehensive, this text uses generalization programming to teach students how to apply behavioral concepts to complex everyday situations. The author introduces, defines, and illustrates each behavior modification concept and then immediately engages students with recall questions and vignettes that show students how to apply concepts to the real world.

principles of behavior analysis: Behavior Analysis and Learning W. David Pierce, Carl D. Cheney, 2013-08-21 Behavior Analysis and Learning, Fifth Edition is an essential textbook covering the basic principles in the field of behavior analysis and learned behaviors, as pioneered by B. F. Skinner. The textbook provides an advanced introduction to operant conditioning from a very consistent Skinnerian perspective. It covers a range of principles from basic respondent and operant conditioning through applied behavior analysis into cultural design. Elaborating on Darwinian components and biological connections with behavior, the book treats the topic from a consistent worldview of selectionism. The functional relations between the organism and the environment are described, and their application in accounting for old behavior and generating new behavior is illustrated. Expanding on concepts of past editions, the fifth edition provides updated coverage of recent literature and the latest findings. There is increased inclusion of biological and neuroscience material, as well as more data correlating behavior with neurological and genetic factors. The chapter on verbal behavior is expanded to include new research on stimulus equivalence and naming; there is also a more detailed and updated analysis of learning by imitation and its possible links to mirror neurons. In the chapter on applied behavior analysis (ABA), new emphasis is given to contingency management of addiction, applications to education, ABA and autism, and prevention and treatment of health-related problems. The material presented in this book provides the reader with the best available foundation in behavior science and is a valuable resource for advanced undergraduate and graduate students in psychology or other behavior-based disciplines. In addition, a website of supplemental resources for instructors and students makes this new edition even more accessible and student-friendly (www.psyppress.com/u/pierce).

principles of behavior analysis: Applied Behavior Analysis of Language and Cognition Mitch J Fryling, Ruth Anne Rehfeldt, Jonathan Tarbox, Linda J. Hayes, 2020-03-01 Written by leading experts in language and cognition, this groundbreaking behavior analysis textbook brings the study of verbal behavior into the 21st century with cutting-edge research. Students and clinicians in the burgeoning field of applied behavior analysis will find the theoretical foundation they need to effectively help the increasingly diverse clients seeking their services. The origins of behavior analysis can be traced to the pioneering work of B.F. Skinner. Skinner's fundamental insights into how human behavior is shaped, maintained, and can be changed were powerful and far-reaching. Some of Skinner's most innovative contributions were in the study of language. Behavior analytic work in the area of language and cognition did not stop with Skinner, however. Indeed, Skinner's work in this area has inspired considerable expansion, particularly with an eye toward more sophisticated verbal and cognitive repertoires. This important volume provides an overview of the concepts and core behavioral processes involved in language and cognition. You'll find a deeper exploration of complex linguistic and cognitive skills, including generative responding, learning by observation, and perspective taking. Also included are clinically supported interventions based in mindfulness, psychological flexibility, and emotion regulation to help clients improve complex language, social, and academic skills. The future of behavior analysis is here. With its focus on the importance of language and cognition, this textbook is a must-read for anyone studying or practicing in the science of behavior.

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form the basis of ABA programs. He then describes how the science of behavior analysis can be applied to real life problems. He looks at how behavior is assessed and various intervention techniques that are often employed with children who have special needs.

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principles of behavior analysis: *Handbook of Applied Behavior Analysis* Wayne W. Fisher, Cathleen C. Piazza, Henry S. Roane, 2021-07-14 Widely regarded as the authoritative work on the principles and practice of applied behavior analysis (ABA), this indispensable volume is now in a revised and expanded second edition. Leading experts present evidence-based procedures for supporting positive behaviors and reducing problem behaviors with children and adults in diverse contexts. Chapters delve into applications in education, autism treatment, addictions, behavioral pediatrics, and other areas. Covering everything from behavioral assessment and measurement to the design and implementation of individualized interventions, the Handbook is a complete reference and training tool for ABA practitioners and students. Key Words/Subject Areas: ABA therapy, behavior analysts, developmental disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, autism treatments, behavior management, functional behavioral assessments, texts, textbooks, research handbooks, positive reinforcement, behavioral pediatrics, behavioural, behaviorism, children, adults, principles and procedures, graduate courses, classes, BCBA certification, training, reducing problem behaviors, treating autistic kids, behavioral treatments, early interventions, positive behavior supports, comprehensive guide, special education Audience: Behavior analysts and trainees working with children and adults, including special educators, school and clinical psychologists, autism specialists, and behavioral medicine professionals--

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principles of behavior analysis: *Applied Behavior Analysis* John O. Cooper, Timothy E. Heron, William L. Heward, 2013-07-15 The long-awaited second edition of the classic textbook, Applied Behavior Analysis, provides a comprehensive, in-depth discussion of the field, providing a complete description of the principles and procedures needed to systematically change socially significant behavior and to understand the reasons for that change. The authors' goal in revising this

best-selling text was to introduce students to ABA in as complete, technically accurate, and contemporary manner as possible. As a result, the book's scope, treatment of various principles, procedures, and issues suggest that it is intended for concentrated and serious study. Readers of the new second edition will appreciate the inclusion of: more than 1,400 citations to primary-source literature, including both classic and contemporary studies; a glossary of more than 400 technical terms and concepts; more than 100 graphs displaying original data from peer-reviewed research, with detailed descriptions of the procedures used to collect the data represented; five new chapters written by leading scholars in the field of behavior analysis; and the addition of The Behavior Analyst Certification Board(r) BCBA(r) and BCABA(r) Behavior Analyst Task List, Third Edition. First published in 1987, Applied Behavior Analysis remains the top-choice primary text for appropriate courses at universities in the United States and abroad with leading programs in behavior analysis. This comprehensive text, best-suited for all upper-level courses in basic principles, applications, and behavioral research methods, helps students, educators, and practitioners appreciate and begin to acquire the conceptual and technical skills necessary to foster socially adaptive behavior in diverse individuals.

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Stephen N. Haynes, William Hayes O'Brien, 2003-10-27 The goal of this book is to present the characteristics and underlying assumptions of the behavioral assessment paradigm and to show how they affect the strategies of behavioral assessment. Although all of the concepts and strategies discussed in this book are applicable in the research, this book focuses on the use of behavioral assessment to guide clinical judgments.

principles of behavior analysis: Clinical and Organizational Applications of Applied Behavior Analysis Henry S. Roane, Joel E. Ringdahl, Terry S. Falcomata, 2015-06-20 Applied behavior analysts use applied research to create and implement effective evidence-based procedures in schools, homes, and the community, which have proved effective in addressing behaviors associated with autism and other developmental disorders. The principles underlying this therapeutic approach have been increasingly effective when applied to other populations, settings, and behaviors. Clinical and Organizational Applications of Applied Behavior Analysis explores data-based decision-making in depth to inform treatment selection for behavior change across various populations and contexts. Each chapter addresses considerations related to data collection, single-case research design methodology, objective decision-making, and visual inspection of data. The authors reference a range of published research methods in the area of applied behavior analysis (ABA) as it has been applied to specific topics, as well as utilizing their own clinical work by providing numerous case examples. - Reviews current evidence-based practices to provide a comprehensive guide to the application of ABA principles across a range of clinical contexts and applications - Divides clinical applications into three sections for ease-of-use: child, adult, and broad-based health - Explores the breadth of ABA-based treatment beyond autism and developmental disorders - Draws upon a range of subject-matter experts who have clinical and research experience across multiple uses of ABA

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Introductory college text.

principles of behavior analysis: Practical Ethics for Effective Treatment of Autism

Spectrum Disorder Matthew T. Brodhead, David J. Cox, Shawn P Quigley, 2022-05-17 Practical Ethics for Effective Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder, Second Edition is for behavior analysts working directly with, or supervising those who work with, individuals with autism. The book addresses the principles and values that underlie the Behavior Analyst Certification Board's® Professional and Ethical Compliance Code for Behavior Analysts and factors that affect ethical decision-making. In addition, the book addresses critical and under-discussed topics, including scope of competence, evidence-based practice in behavior analysis, how to collaborate with professionals within and outside one's discipline, and how to design systems of ethical supervision and training

customized to unique treatment settings. Across many of the topics, the authors also discuss errors students and professionals may make during analyses of ethical dilemmas and misapplications of ethical codes within their practice. New to this revision are chapters on Quality Control in ABA Service Delivery, Ethical Issues in ABA Business Management and Standardizing Decision-making in ABA Service Delivery. - Reviews new BACB Ethics Code for Behavior Analysis - Discusses factors that affect ethical decision-making - Describes how to create systems for teaching and maintaining ethical behavior - Discusses how to identify your own scope of competence in autism treatment - Examines the process of evidence-based practice and how it can be applied to behavior-analytic treatment for autism - Addresses the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and how to be a good collaborator - Reviews common mistakes that students and supervisors make when analyzing ethical dilemmas, along with common misapplications of ethical codes - Includes new chapters on standardized decision-making and quality control in ABA service delivery

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principles of behavior analysis: Ethics for Behavior Analysts Jon Bailey, Mary Burch,

2006-04-21 Behavior analysis, a rapidly growing profession, began with the use and application of conditioning and learning techniques to modify the behavior of children or adults presenting severe management problems, often because of developmental disabilities. Now behavior analysts work in a variety of settings, from clinics and schools to workplaces. Especially since their practice often involves aversive stimuli or punishment, they confront many special ethical challenges. Recently, the Behavior Analysis Certification Board codified a set of ten fundamental ethical guidelines to be followed by all behavior analysts and understood by all students and trainees seeking certification. This book shows readers how to follow the BACB guidelines in action. The authors first describe core ethical principles and then explain each guideline in detail, in easily comprehensible, everyday language. The text is richly illuminated by more than a hundred vivid case scenarios about which the authors pose, and later answer questions for readers. Useful appendices include the BACB Guidelines, an index to them, practice scenarios, and suggested further reading. Practitioners, instructors, supervisors, students, and trainees alike will welcome this invaluable new aid to professional development.

principles of behavior analysis: Handbook of Applied Behavior Analysis John Austin, James Carr, 2000-05-01 Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is a highly functional discipline that, instead of searching for abstract, internal causes for human behavior, looks to external factors that can be influenced. Once identified, these factors can be manipulated to make meaningful, positive improvements in the lives of real people through positive behavior change. Not surprisingly behavior analysis has been applied to a wide range of human activities, from helping troubled teens to organizing industry to maximizing sports performance. ABA interventions for these diverse problems are often creative-and they tend to be effective. In this volume, some of the field's foremost practitioners offer their expert perspective on a range of topics within ABA. Each chapter is fully referenced and contains a set of reading objectives to facilitate deeper understanding and further discussion of its subject area. While these discussions will be of particular interest to academic behavior analysts and graduate students, clinicians and other practitioners will find the research review helpful and informative.

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ALERT: Before you purchase, check with your instructor or review your course syllabus to ensure that you select the correct ISBN. Several versions of Pearson's MyLab & Mastering products exist for each title, including customized versions for individual schools, and registrations are not transferable. In addition, you may need a CourseID, provided by your instructor, to register for and use Pearson's MyLab & Mastering products. Packages Access codes for Pearson's MyLab & Mastering products may not be included when purchasing or renting from companies other than Pearson; check with the seller before completing your purchase. Used or rental books If you rent or purchase a used book with an access code, the access code may have been redeemed previously and you may have to purchase a new access code. Access codes Access codes that are purchased from sellers other than Pearson carry a higher risk of being either the wrong ISBN or a previously redeemed code. Check with the seller prior to purchase. -- This access code card gives you access to all of MySearchLab's tools and resources, including a complete eText of your book. You can also buy immediate access to MySearchLab with Pearson eText online with a credit card at www.mysearchlab.com. Helps readers understand and appreciate behavior analysis Since the first edition of Principles of Behavior, the authors have sought to address the unique needs of students. This title has been written so that students of all levels will benefit from a solid introduction to the principles of behavior. The authors have laid the ground work for behavior analysis through an exploration of experimental, applied, and theoretical concepts. Case studies and everyday examples

help readers apply principles of behavior to real life. MySearchLab is a part of the Malott/Trojan program. Research and writing tools, including access to academic journals, help students explore behavioral analysis in even greater depth. To provide students with flexibility, students can download the eText to a tablet using the free Pearson eText app. This title is available in a variety of formats - digital and print. Pearson offers its titles on the devices students love through Pearson's MyLab products, CourseSmart, Amazon, and more. To learn more about pricing options and customization, click the Choices tab.

principles of behavior analysis: *Applied Behavior Analysis for Everyone* Robert C Pennington BCBA-D, 2019-05-31 An understanding of applied behavior analysis (ABA) can help teachers, therapists, and practitioners improve the lives of those for whom they are charged to care and serve. In this introduction to ABA, Robert Pennington assembles a cast of talented researchers to describe in their own words important behavioral concepts to an uninitiated audience. The book, comprised of 17 brief chapters, is chocked full of rich examples intended to help the reader navigate unfamiliar concepts and behavioral terminology. The authors cover a range of topics from functional assessment and intervention to instructional strategies for teaching a range of skills to a range of populations. It is a perfect gateway into behavior analytic practice for parents, educators, para-educators, registered behavior technicians, and related service providers.

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principles of behavior analysis: Understanding Ethics in Applied Behavior Analysis Ann Beirne, Jacob A. Sadavoy, 2021-12-23 This book provides the foundation for a lifelong journey of ethical practice in service for individuals with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities. The second edition of Understanding Ethics in Applied Behavior Analysis includes an explanation of each element in the Ethics Code for Behavior Analysts, along with considerations for ethical practice and examples from the field. Professional behavior for the behavior analyst is also addressed when fulfilling roles as teacher, employee, manager, colleague, advocate, or member of a multidisciplinary team. This new edition expands on the first chapter's introduction of moral philosophy, adds a new chapter on ethical decision-making and core principles, and provides a study guide to assist those preparing for the Behavior Analyst Certification Board exams. Drawing upon Beirne and Sadavoy's combined 40 years of clinical experience as well as the reflections of colleagues in the field, this is an indispensable guide to ethics for behavior analysis students.

principles of behavior analysis: Behavioral Principles in Communicative Disorders

Christine A. Maul, Brooke R. Findley, Amanda Nicolson Adam, 2015-12-17 Behavioral Principles in Communicative Disorders: Applications to Assessment and Treatment examines the basic principles of the science of behaviorism and applies those principles to the assessment and treatment of communicative disorders. It begins with the history and basic principles of behaviorism, as well as a chapter examining Skinner's (1957) concept of verbal behavior and functional units of verbal behavior. The text then discusses functional behavior assessment, the formulation of operationally defined target behaviors, discrete trial treatment procedures, and various techniques for increasing desirable behaviors and decreasing undesirable behaviors. The concluding chapters describe single-case research designs that support the efficacy of behavioral principles and address ethical questions and historic controversies surrounding the application of those principles.

Speech-language pathologists (SLPs) seek to change communicative behaviors in the clients they serve; the principles of behavioral science have many applications to the assessment and treatment of communicative disorders. There is a vast body of evidence indicating the efficacy of behavioral approaches in behavior modification, and SLPs have been tasked by their professional associations to employ evidence-based practices. Also, there is an appreciation for the usefulness of behavioral principles in treating clients with very severe communicative disorders, such as autism, apraxia, and dysfluency. This is evidenced by the development of the field of applied behavior analysis and the growing numbers of board certified behavior analysts (BCBA), with whom SLPs may be called upon to collaborate. Behavioral Principles in Communicative Disorders is primarily designed for practicing speech-language pathologists looking for detailed descriptions of evidence-based treatment procedures, as well as professors and students in university programs in communicative disorders. However, professionals in other fields, such as applied behavior analysis and special education, will also find this to be a highly useful text.

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Since the so-called 'cognitive revolution' in psychology in the 1960s, it has often been said that 'behaviourism is dead'. This book demonstrates why this is not the case and how the behavioural approach has continued to flourish. Leslie begins by summarising the behavioural approach to psychology and shows how it differs from other contemporary and cognitive approaches. The basic

principles of the discipline are outlined and linked to major areas of interest and importance, such as behavioural neuroscience, resolution of human behavioural problems, and human language and cognition. Behaviour analysis is thus shown to contribute to our developing understanding of the relationship between brain systems and psychological problems, to provide an effective and scientifically based approach to human behavioural problems and to deal with topics central to modern psychology.

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