

BRENDAN'S HYPOTHESES STATEMENTS

Based on data from *Brendan's Observation Cards* and *Functional Assessment Interview*, the support team developed four hypotheses statements that summarize what is known about Brendan's triggers, behaviors, and maintaining consequences and offers an informed guess about the purpose of his problem behavior.

1. When Brendan is tired and/or is unable to access what he wants, he is likely to tantrum (prolonged whining, crying, and screaming) which will sometimes increase to physical aggression (banging self onto adult, head thrusting, holding his brother down, taking objects, or hitting). When this happens, someone intervenes by trying to cajole him with hugs or food or by telling him "show me" or saying "what do you want". This results in adults giving him help, food, or attention.
2. Brendan is likely to tantrum (prolonged whining, crying, screaming, and dropping to the ground) and then sometimes throwing an object when someone places a demand to go somewhere. When he tantrums and throws objects, he is sometimes allowed to continue playing or the transition of going somewhere is prolonged. This results in temporarily escaping the transition or delaying "going somewhere".
3. Brendan is likely to tantrum (prolonged whining, crying, and screaming) or throw objects when he is asked to share toys or an activity. When he tantrums or throws objects, he is then given the item back that he had previously or allowed to continue playing or he is given a preferred item or activity. This results in adults withdrawing demands.
4. Brendan is likely to wander or run and then, at times, become physically aggressive (bang self onto adult, head thrusts, or hits) when he is trying to escape boredom or avoid waiting. In response, adults will ask questions and/or have him take them to what he wants or try to coax him by verbally redirecting and physically assisting him.