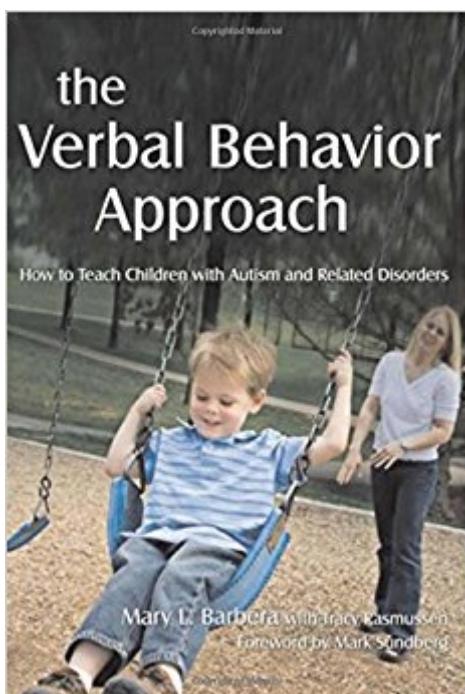


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# The Verbal Behavior Approach: How To Teach Children With Autism And Related Disorders



## **Synopsis**

The Verbal Behavior (VB) approach is a form of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), that is based on B.F. Skinner's analysis of verbal behavior and works particularly well with children with minimal or no speech abilities. In this book Dr. Mary Lynch Barbera draws on her own experiences as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and also as a parent of a child with autism to explain VB and how to use it. This step-by-step guide provides an abundance of information about how to help children develop better language and speaking skills, and also explains how to teach non-vocal children to use sign language. An entire chapter focuses on ways to reduce problem behavior, and there is also useful information on teaching toileting and other important self-help skills, that would benefit any child. This book will enable parents and professionals unfamiliar with the principles of ABA and VB to get started immediately using the Verbal Behavior approach to teach children with autism and related disorders.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

A succinct, intelligible tour of an effective intervention for autistic children through both speech and non-verbal communication. -- Kirkus Reports, April 2007 For autistic children and adults this is clearly a very valuable addition....It is a very good book in all respects. -- Dr. Jack Michael, Editor, The Analysis of Verbal Behavior One of the most valuable books for parents of children with autism since Let Me Hear Your Voice by Catherine Maurice. -- Mark L. Sundberg, Ph.D., BCBA This book is an important one. Parents will be delighted with its easy and practical approach. -- Mary Jane

Weiss, Journal of Early and Intensive Behavior Intervention, Vol 4, No. 2, 2007Wow what an excellent book! I wish it would have been available when my daughter, Sarah, was first diagnosed.  
-- Liz Maher, Mother of a 10-year-old girl with autism

âœThe Verbal Behavior Approach serves as a practical and thorough guide on the principles of using the Verbal Behavior Approach for children with autism. Difficult terms are translated into easy-to-understand layman's terms, which would be very useful for first- time learners and practicing clinicians unfamiliar with the Verbal Behavior Approach... This book will explain not only to parents, but also to Speech- Language Pathologists and other professionals how to reinforce and encourage communication from children with autism and other disabilities... This book is a âœmust haveâ • for Speech- Language Pathologists interested in learning about and utilizing the Verbal Behavior Approach. A number of highly specific therapy techniques are presented as well as other relevant topics such as reinforcement and behavior. Packed with useful information and tips, this book is ideal for Speech- Language Pathologists across both clinic and educational settings. The information that is provided in this text is comprehensive, concise and practical and Speech- Language Pathologists will benefit from its wealth of resources included in the appendices. As the need for services with children with autism spectrum disorder continue to grow, Speech- Language Pathologists will require a concise, easy to read resource as this one to become familiar with this approach to effectively teach language to students with autism.â • (International Journal of Behavioral and Consultation Therapy)âœThis book serves to educate family members exceptionally well on several of the most important concepts and foundational ideas of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). Ms. Barbera does an outstanding job of explaining why the ABC's (Antecedents-Behaviors-Consequences) of behavior are so important to understand. She is especially good at explaining the importance of determining the function of challenging behaviors. This will help parents as they try to unravel the seeming mysteries of children's behaviors. She also clearly outlines how treatments must match the functions of behaviors, and how appropriate replacement skills must be taught to address the same function... the book is an excellent source of information on Applied Behavior Analysis and on Verbal Behavior. It serves to clear up some major sources of consumer confusion, most notably about Verbal Behavior's embeddedness within ABA. There are countless helpful and well-grounded suggestions for parents who are interested in using this approach with their children.â • (Journal of Early and Intensive Behavior Intervention)âœThis book provides a friendly voice that will assist parents, educators, and other professionals in utilizing these techniques with children with autism. It is a must have for anyone who knows, lives with, or

teaches a child with autism spectrum disorder.â • (Kimberly Barnes, PhD, CCC-SLP, Speech and Language Pathologist)â œThe Verbal Behavior Approach is a wonderful book! I typically get glazed over with the intensity of ABA/VB. This was an easy read that provided clear-cut, practical information that families and professionals can effectively use.â • (Traci L. Plunkett, Mother of a son with PDD-NOS)â œThis book accomplishes many things that few such works doâ “it pairs sound research with concrete examples; is accessible to the expert and novice alike, and touches the heart without sacrificing professionalism.â • (Anne A. Skleider, Ph.D. Provost, Cabrini College)â œAs a dedicated and caring parent, Mary has demonstrated her commitment to all children with autism by writing such a thoughtful and useful book.â • (Rick Kubina, Ph.D., BCBA, Associate Professor, The Pennsylvania State University)â œWritten with style, warmth and real know-how, Mary Barbera has managed to combine valuable therapeutic advice with her own eloquent story.â • (Eustacia Cutler, Author of *A Thorn in My Pocket: Temple Grandin's Mother Tells the Family Story*)â œAn amazing book that combines detailed instructions for parents on how to get started using ABA/VB with a little bit of emotional support to let them know that they are not alone.â • (Trish Cuce, Mother of a daughter with autism, teacher & consultant for children with Autism, Founder of POAC of PA)â œAn easy to follow guide that works. The Verbal Behavior approach is motivation driven, creating the desire to learn.â • (Kathleen Ricca, M.Ed., parent of a three-year-old boy with autism)â œOne of the most valuable books for parents of children with autism since *Let Me Hear Your Voice* by Catherine Maurice.â • (Mark Sundberg, Ph.D., BCBA, Author of the VB-MAPP (2008))â œBarbera is not only accurate, but easy to understand... her personal experience in this area makes her explanations and instructions entertaining and easy to apply.â • (Dr. Jack Michael, Professor Emeritus, Western Michigan University)â œI taught a class on verbal behavior once a year for 25 years. How I wish I could have had this book during that time. It would have made my instruction so much more effective.â • (John O. Cooper, Ed.D., Professor Emeritus of Education, The Ohio State University, Co-Author of *Applied Behavior Analysis*)â œWith clear, concise explanations and examples, heartfelt stories and helpful resources listed throughout, Mary has provided the community with a nice description of teaching verbal behavior. Every parent of a newly diagnosed child should own a copy of this book.â • (Holly Kibbe, MS, BCBA, Establishing Operations, Inc.)â œA succinct, intelligible tour of an effective intervention for autistic children through both speech and non-verbal communication. VB is a refinement of B.F. Skinner's pioneering work on language and operates under the conviction that expressive language is behavioral, rather than purely cognitive. Barbera takes Skinner's arcane language and renders it not only clear but convincingâ • (Kirkus Reports)â œUsing a behavioral analysis of language as

described by B.F. Skinner, this approach teaches language across functions, which Mary explains with easy-to-understand examples and language. Written from the perspective of both a parent and a professional this book will prove valuable to a variety of readers. • (Catherine B. Doran, MA, CCC/SLP, Speech and Language Pathologist) I highly recommend Mary's book. It is excellent! Although it's very short and easy to read, it seems to cover everything! I'm recommending it to every parent and professional I come in contact with. • (Sharon Zamrin, M.S.Ed., BCBA) "The Verbal Behavior Approach provides useful information and resources for immediate application, accomplishing the book's main objective, providing for rapid implementation of an AVB program." • (The Behavior Analyst Today) "Written with style, warmth and real know-how, Mary Barbera has managed to combine valuable therapeutic advice with her own eloquent story." • (Eustacia Cutler, author of *A Thorn in My Pocket: Temple Grandin's Mother Tells the Family Story*)

I really enjoy this book. Easily read and understood with the process it was written and helps gain insight to the communication of non-verbal children. Originally checked it out at the library, but after reading it, knew it would be handy to have for any reinforcement or reminder of how to best serve 'non-verbal' children. Have recommended it several times to others in the DDA field.

Thank you for this book. In this new world of autism my family has entered, with so many unfamiliar terms and suggestions, this book has really helped me to make some sense of what our son needs and the therapy he is receiving. I'm better able now to make relevant steps in administering his home therapy and helping him throughout the day.

Excellent book. It's very easy to read, the author uses terminology, but explains and breaks it down very well. I have read a lot of books regarding this topic and felt like this book is one I will refer to if needed. Other books, I have had a hard time understanding terminology I am unfamiliar with. This book is great for using terminology and being able to apply the knowledge. I would highly recommend this book to those looking for a way to apply ABA.

Mary has done an excellent job breaking down a scientifically validated intervention for teaching individuals with ASD. It is well written, easy to read, with great examples. Take this book, highlight the heck out of it, tab it up, and implement it and you will soon have a talker on your hands! This is a great supplement for therapist or teacher training! And what a great tool for parents! We give this book to the parents of our clients as well as use as a resource for training staff! And the price with

FREE shipping you can't beat! Well worth it!

Great informational book! It really helped me with my friend's little guy.

Great read!

This book is written in a way that is very user friendly. I help support many verbal behavior programs in the school district I work. I have recommended this book to others because it is easy to understand. Though some of the scientific terms such as "manding" are used it is also explained in a non-threatening way. The author is a mother of a child with autism and took the information she learned while navigating the world of autism. Her first hand experience with the frustrations of not understanding the system and language used by professionals was certainly taken into account when she wrote the book.

I'm currently a grad student studying Applied Behavior Analysis, and I bought the book for a class I was taking, as a required text. But I have found it very useful outside of the classroom as well. The book is written from a parent's perspective, so it describes behavior analysis from that perspective, and uses a lot of lay terms to help the reader understand the concepts. I have even recommended it to parents of children trying to get help with their children that they believe may have autism.

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