

## Example Problem Behavior Definitions

Problem Behavior	Operational Definition
Disruptive Behaviors	Behaviors that interfere with his/her learning or the learning of those around him/her
Leaving Designated Area/Elopement	Successful and/or unsuccessful attempts to leave the designated area without adult supervision and/or permission
Inappropriate Commenting	Verbal comment/statements directed at peers or adults that may be argumentative or hurtful in nature
Noncompliance/Failure to Follow Directions	Verbal or nonverbal refusal to comply with an adult-given directive (within ____ amount of time)
Off-Task	Engaging in behaviors other than the expected behavior/task (for longer than ____ amount of time)
Physical Aggression (can specify towards peers or adults)	Physical contact with self, others, and/or property that is potentially harmful in nature

Problem Behavior	Operational Definition
Property Destruction	Successful and/or unsuccessful attempts to damage personal or public property
Provoking Conflict with/among Peers	Verbal and/or physical interactions with peers of a rude, sarcastic, annoying, distasteful and/or insulting nature
Tantrums	An episode lasting at least ____ (amount of time) that may include the following behaviors: crying, lying on the floor, screaming, etc.)
Use of profanity	Vocalizations consisting of vulgarities or expletives or words that are not age-appropriate
Verbal Aggression	A threat or comment that indicates any form of physical harm to another person

**Note:** Operational definitions **MUST** include student-specific examples and non-examples. Think about how you defined problem behaviors in Tier I with examples and non-examples.

