Dana

Behavior Hypotheses:

1. When Dana is asked to engage in activities that he finds difficult or demanding (staying in area, playing with undesired materials, staying with small group), he escapes demands by screaming, dropping to the floor, and hitting adults while being redirected. When this occurs, adults will decrease their demands or leave him alone.

2. When asked to transition from one activity to another (e.g., outside activities to indoors, classroom to car, store to car), Dana attempts to escape the transition by dropping to the ground, screaming, crying, and hitting adults when they try to redirect him. Sometimes when this occurs, adults allow Dana to have more time in the activity or have to resort to picking him up and carrying him.

3. Dana has challenging behavior, screaming and crying, to escape demands in play. When adults or peers play near him and attempt to interact with him, change an activity, or initiate a new activity, Dana will use challenging behavior. When this occurs, the adult or peer will leave Dana alone or play “his way.”

4. When asked to come to eat, Dana will often come to the table on his own, take a portion of his food, and then roam around the room while eating. Periodically, he will return to the table to get more food and then again walk around the room while he eats. If assisted to sit, Dana will scream, cry, drop to the ground, and sometimes hit the adult. When this occurs, adults leave Dana alone and allow him to eat his food while walking around the room.