Functions of Behavior

Function		Your child is trying to say	Happens when	Examples:
Tangibles		"I want something!"	*Your child is told "no."	*Child throws a tantrum in the checkout lane because they want a candy bar. *Child screams when told they cannot have more electronic time.
Escape	HOMEWORK	"I <u>don't</u> want to do something!"	*Your child is told to do something they don't want to do.	*Child yells/hides/argues when told to clean his room. *Child folds their arms and gives you the silent treatment when told to do homework.
Attention		"I want your attention!"	*Your child is bored or feels as if they aren't getting enough attention from you.	*Child yells when you are on the phone. *Child starts running around when you are talking to their sibling.
Sensory		"This feels good!"	*Could be any time, but especially when your child is excited or anxious about something.	*Child engages in repetitve behavior when anxious/excited. *Child flaps arms when excited. *Child chews on objects/clothing when anxious.