

**Student Choice Intervention.  
A Meta-Analysis of Current  
Literature**



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**BACKGROUND:** Student choice interventions are commonly used to increase student engagement, decrease disruptive behavior, and increase academic responses. These interventions can be flexibly applied across tiers within the PBIS framework.

**PURPOSE:** To conduct a review of single case research utilizing student choice interventions for K-12 students and assess the effectiveness of these interventions on student outcomes. The following research questions were addressed:

1. What are the overall effects of student choice interventions on students' behavioral outcomes (i.e., academic responses, engagement, and disruptive behavior)?
2. What is the quality of the single case literature on student choice interventions?
3. Which intervention characteristics are most commonly applied in student choice interventions?

**METHODS:**

- Identified single case research studies utilizing student choice interventions
- Coded studies for intervention characteristics and study quality and rigor using the Single Case Analysis and Review Framework (SCARF; Ledford, Lane, Zimmerman, Chazin, & Ayres, 2016)
- Extracted data from single case graphs using plot digitizer (Plot Digitizer, 2015)
- Conducted *LRR<sub>z</sub>* to estimate the average effect size of student choice interventions for increasing engagement and academic responses
- Conducted *LRR<sub>d</sub>* to estimate the average effect size of student choice interventions for decreasing disruptive behaviors

# Student choice interventions for K-12 students increased engagement and decreased disruptive behavior.

**FINDINGS:**

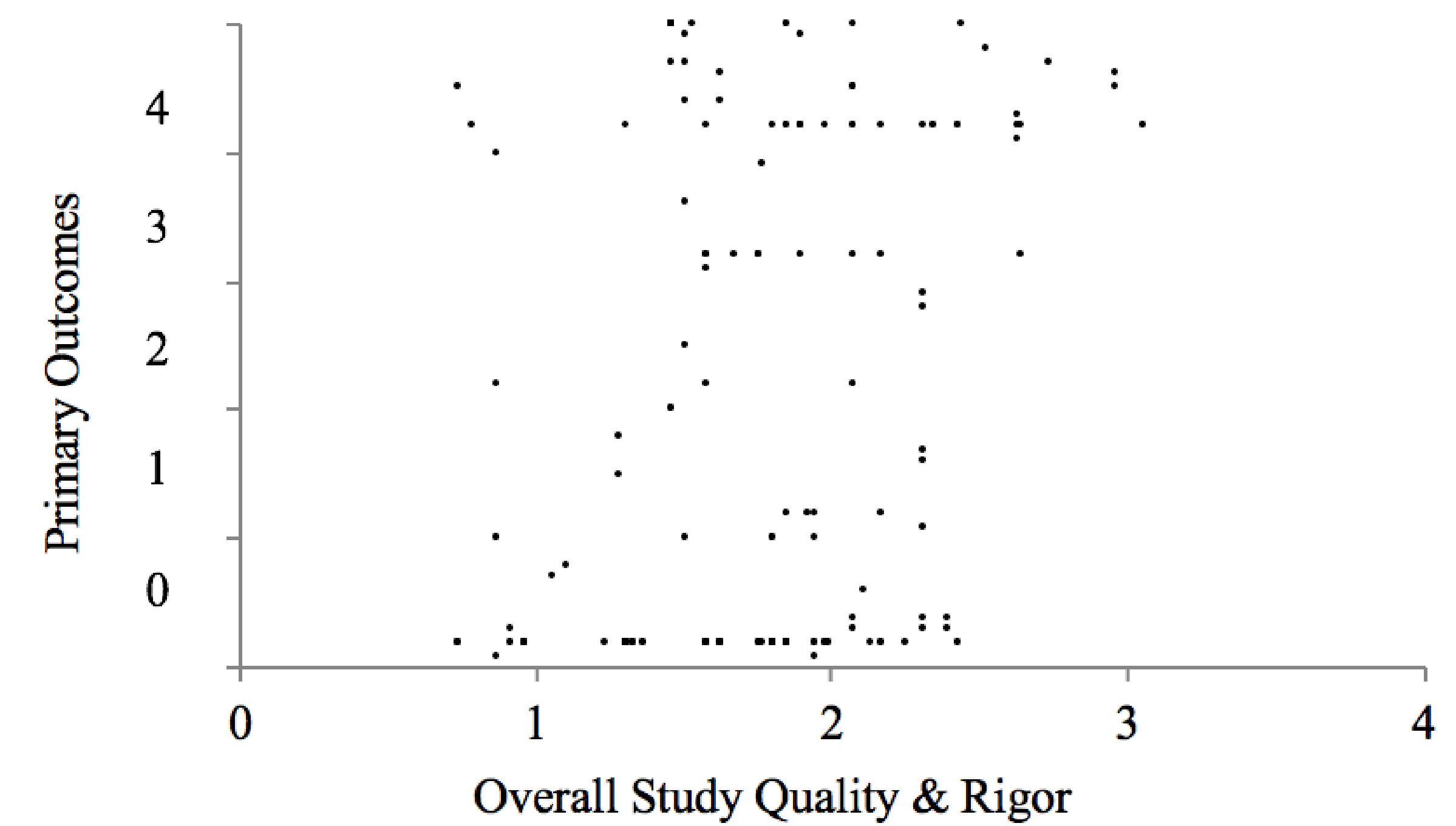
- 38 studies with 179 single case designs identified
- 119 total participants across studies
- Student choice interventions increased **engagement** across studies (*LRR<sub>z</sub>* = .235, *p* < .0001)
- Student choice interventions decreased **disruptive behavior** across studies (*LRR<sub>d</sub>* = -.810, *p* < .0001)
- Student choice interventions had no significant effect across studies on **academic responses**

**INTERVENTION CHARACTERISTICS:**

Characteristic	Percentage of Participants
<u>Choice Intervention Type</u>	
Reinforcer	26.9%
Activity	47.9%
Activity Order	25.2%
Seating	5.88%
<u>Intervention Implementer</u>	
Teacher	45.4%
Paraprofessional	1.68%
Researcher	45.4%

Note: 119 total participants

**STUDY OUTCOMES AND QUALITY & RIGOR:**



**AVERAGE EFFECT SIZE ESTIMATES:**

DV	Effects	Estimate	SE	$\tau^2$	$\omega^2$
Engagement	47	0.235***	0.0424	0.064	92.42
Disruptive Behavior	51	-0.810***	0.1864	1.561	95.90
Academic Responses	46	0.030	0.0160	0.002	66.50

\*\*\* indicates *p* < .0001