

Data Collection Reference Sheet

Type of Data	Definition	When to Use It	Examples
Frequency	Measurement of how often a behavior occurs. (Examples: tally marks, moving paper clips from one pocket to another, etc.)	When behaviors being measured are uniform, have clear beginning and end, and are equal length.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Number of days tardy. · Number of times hand raised.
Rate	Measurement of how often behavior occurs when observations vary in length. (Divide # of times behavior occurs by number of minutes of observation.)	When behaviors are uniform, have clear beginning and end, are equal in length, and length of observation sessions vary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Number of times student calls out per hour. · Number of correct responses out of 5 questions.
Duration	Measurement of how long a behavior lasts. (Examples: using stopwatch, classroom clock, tools on smart phone.)	When behaviors last over a period of time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Amount of time sitting in circle time without getting up. · Amount of time a tantrum lasts.
Latency	Identical to duration, except that it is the measurement of how long it takes a behavior to begin after instruction/directive.	When there is a period of time between directive and behavior.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Minutes it takes student to follow teacher direction. · Time it takes student to arrive to class after bell rings.
Intensity	Measurement of the force with which the behavior is performed or demonstrated.	When the primary concern of a behavior is the force with which it is performed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Student responds so teacher can hear. · Baby's bite leaves teeth marks.

SSD PBIS Team (2011), Source: Adapted from Lane, K.L. & Beebe-Frankengerger, M. (2004) School-Based Interventions: The Tools You Need to Succeed. Boston, MA: Pearson Education, Inc.; and Umbreit, J., Ferro, J., Liaupsin, C.J., Lane, K.L. (2007). Functional Behavioral Assessment and Function-Based Intervention: An Effective, Practical Approach. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Pearson Education, Inc.

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Momentary Time Sampling	Measurement of behaviors as either occurring (+), or not occurring, (-) only at the end of an interval of time. (Ex: Every 30 seconds, teacher looks up and marks whether or not student is on task.)	When behaviors are not brief or uniform, and when time constraints won't allow for constant observation over a period of time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Percentage of intervals student is observed on task. · Percentage of intervals student is observed out of seat.
Partial Interval Recording	Observation session is divided into intervals of time; behavior is measured as occurring (+), or not occurring (-) at any time during the interval.	When behavior is brief, uniform, have distinct beginning and end, and when constant attention can be given during observation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Percentage of intervals student is observed as off-task during entire interval.
Whole Interval Recording	Observation session is divided into intervals of time; behavior is measured as occurring (+), or not occurring (-) throughout the entire interval.	When behavior is not brief or uniform, and when constant attention can be given during observation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Percentage of intervals student is observed on task during entire interval.
A-B-C	Direct observation which includes the identification, description, and documentation of antecedent conditions, behavior occurrences, and consequences that affect future occurrences.	When a behavior has been operationally defined and a function needs to be determined.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A – Teacher gives math assignment. B – Student throws book on floor. C – Teacher sends student to office.
Permanent Product	Measurement of products of student behavior. Examples: math test, writing sample, graffiti. (Does not measure actual behavior.)	When a behavior produces lasting products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Spelling test. · Graffiti on bathroom stall. · Writing sample.

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