

Collecting Observational Data

Event Recording

Date of Observation/ Setting	Time Period of Observation		✓ each target behavior occurrence
	Start	End	
<i>October 2, 2003/cafeteria</i>	<i>10:00 am</i>	<i>10:30 am</i>	<i>✓✓✓✓✓</i>

- *Most accurate with behaviors that have a discreet beginning and end
- *Used to determine the amount or frequency of the behavior
- *Use a different type of data collection with behaviors that occur at a very high or very low frequency rate
- *Two example behaviors: talk outs; touching others

Interval

Seconds	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Target behavior	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+

- *Provides an estimate of length of time behavior occurs
- *Useful to gather information on continuous behaviors
- *Two example behaviors: time off task; wandering in/out of classroom

Duration

Date of Observation/ Setting	Behavior		Total Duration of Behavior
	Onset	Cessation	
<i>November 4, 2003/math</i>	<i>9:01am</i>	<i>9:12 am</i>	<i>11 minutes</i>

- *Used to determine how long a behavior lasts
- *Most accurate with behaviors that have a discreet beginning and end
- *Two example behaviors: wandering room; tantrum

Latency

Date/ Setting	Time of Initial Directive	Number of redirections	Time of Compliance	Latency
<i>1/27/03/lunch line</i>	<i>12:05 pm</i>	<i>✓✓</i>	<i>12:20 pm</i>	<i>15 minutes</i>

*Used to determine how long before a before begins

*Most accurate with behaviors that have a discreet beginning and end

*Two example behaviors: compliance with teacher directive; response time

Narrative

Date: _____ Setting: _____

Observation: Start Time _____ End Time _____

St. enters room, st. touches items on other sts' desks as he walks towards his seat. Teacher sees st. touching others property. T says "Tim stop touching other peoples' property". Tim mumbles under his breath, "I can do whatever I want".....T does not respond to st comment. St continues to wander around the room, touching property At 2 min. 35 sec.-teacher calls office and asks for escort for Tim. St. listens to teacher make phone call and walks to seat.

*Used to gather information regarding antecedents/maintaining consequences;
defining target behavior

*Use a different type of data collection for high frequency behaviors

* Two example behaviors: non-compliance; wandering room