

Data Collection

Goals

- Learn how to measure behavior and why it is important
- Learn how to prepare for data collection during sessions
- Learn different types of measurement procedures and guidelines for data collection

Measuring Behavior

Measuring behavior means putting a quantitative value (#) on behavior. What

type of data I collect will depend on:

- The type of behavior I am tracking
- Whether my plan is to increase or decrease the target behavior

Examples of things you might record:

How often behavior occurs: _____

How long behavior occurs: _____

We measure/record data to be objective and _____; to determine if the procedures we are using are _____.

Visual representation such as a _____ or _____ literally shows behavior change.

If my data show an error every time, I may add a _____ to ensure success next time. If my data show success every time, I may _____ prompts.

In ABA we make all our decisions based on _____.

When do we record data? On any behavior targeted for change.

Targeted behaviors to increase might include: _____, _____, social interaction, and play skills

Targeted behaviors to decrease might include: _____, self-stimulatory behavior, and _____.

Preparing for Data Collection

Gather materials prior to session. They should be portable and _____. If you are using technology, log on or launch the app.

If you are using pen and paper, have relevant prepared data sheets, pen, clock _____ or _____. Make sure they are all in working condition.

Always review the program so you know what you will be teaching and the data you will be recording.

Interobserver Agreement (IOA)

Inter-observer agreement is when _____ people independently and simultaneously observe and record data and report the same value after measuring the same events.

This will likely be a _____.

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Types Of Measurement

Frequency

Frequency is the _____ behavior occurs within a given time period. This is the most common kind of measurement.

Frequency is used for behaviors that have a clear _____ and end.

This could be behaviors to increase, such as: _____

This could be behaviors to decrease, such as: _____

Duration

Duration is the length of time a behavior occurs.

Duration is used when you want to increase or decrease the length of time a client engages in a behavior.

Examples: increase the length of time a client plays appropriately with a peer or decrease the length of time tantrum behavior occurs

Set a _____ from beginning to end.

Start the timer when the behavior begins. Stop the timer when the behavior ends. Record the total time.

Duration is typically recorded in total minutes and seconds within a given time period.

Time sampling

An observation period is divided into equal intervals (10 sec, 30 sec, 1 min, etc.). Occurrence or absence of the _____ is recorded during each interval. Summarize the ___ of intervals in which the target behavior occurred.

There are 3 types of time _____ procedures.

Partial Interval: record if the target behaviors occur at all during any point within the interval. This requires _____ observation.

Partial interval is used for behaviors that start and stop quickly or occur in rapid succession, such as _____.

Whole Interval: record the occurrence of the target behavior only if the target behavior occurs the ___ time. This requires continuous observation.

Whole interval is used when you want to increase the duration of the target behavior, such as engagement with a _____, remaining seated during a lesson, or time spent exercising.

Momentary Time Sampling (MTS): record occurrence if the target behavior occurs at the very end of each interval. This does not require continuous observation.

MTS is used when you want to increase a behavior that should be _____ and when tracking _____ behaviors for one client or multiple _____ at the same time.

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Opportunity-based

Opportunity-based data collection is typically used with DTT _____. During a given opportunity to engage in the target behavior, record correct (+) or incorrect (-) depending on the learner's response.

Permanent product

Permanent product data are used when the behavior results in a product.

For example, a completed worksheet, the final score on a math sheet, the number of dishes loaded in the dishwasher, or _____.

The advantage of permanent product recording is that it can be recorded/scored _____, allowing staff to _____.

Guidelines for Data Collection

- Be objective: what is the operational definition?
- Be accurate
- Stay organized: be prepared and have all materials you need
- Other than permanent product, record data _____ after any behavior occurs

What To Do With Data Collection

Data need to be graphed.

All decisions in ABA must be based on _____.

We _____ our data on a _____ or chart.

We must analyze data to see what _____ has been made, or if _____ need to be made to the teaching plan