SPEECH LANGUAGE OBSERVATIONS: SYSTEMATIC RECORDING METHODS

When considering Speech or Language Impairment, an observation in a natural environment with subsequent reference data or evidence is required. Select one or more of these data driven observation approaches to fulfill this component of a comprehensive special education evaluation.

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<th>Recording Method</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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| **Response Ratio**       | Total of number of responses by number of opportunities to respond.         | Record each observation of an initiation or response during a given period. All opportunities to respond should also be recorded to obtain a ratio. | Social Initiations  
Articulation Errors  
Syntactic Errors  
Vocal Misuse  
Use of Nonverbal Response or AAC  
Verbal Participation in Group or Class |
| **Frequency Recording**  | How frequently a behavior occurs within a given period.                     | Make tally marks on a piece of paper, use a hand-held tally counter, or any variety of creative options.            | Articulation Errors  
Syntax Errors  
Vocal Misuse  
Occurrence of Stuttering or Disfluency |
| **Interval Recording**   | Whether or not the behavior occurs within a given period.                   | Mark a data collection sheet to indicate the presence or absence of a behavior.                                     | Social Interaction  
Vague Referents  
Verbal Participation in Group or Class  
Time On Task During Play |
| **Duration Recording**   | Length of time that a student engages in a behavior.                        | Start stopwatch when student begins the behavior and stop stopwatch when the behavior ends.                         | Duration of Stutter or Disfluency  
Conversational Turn Length  
Length of Talk Time in Class  
Peer Engagement (e.g., play) |
| **Latency Recording**    | How long it takes for the behavior to occur.                                | Start stopwatch when a behavior should start and stop stopwatch when the behavior actually starts.                | Direction Following  
Response to Questions  
Written Language Production  
Labeling Objects  
Use of Nonverbal Response or AAC  
Preparing Materials Needed |


*Acknowledgements* Wisconsin DPI would like to thank Courtney Seidel for the development of this resource.

August 2021