Discrete Tracking Toolkit

Non-disruptive methods for behavior data collection

classroompulse.io

Why Discrete Tracking?

Visible data collection can sometimes trigger or reinforce behavior. Discrete methods allow accurate tracking without drawing attention to the behavior or making the student self-conscious.

Method 1: Beads/Paperclips

Move items between pockets to count occurrences.

- Start with X items in left pocket
- Move one to right pocket for each occurrence
- Count right pocket at end of period

Pro Tip

Use different colored items to track multiple behaviors simultaneously.

Method 2: Tally on Hand/Wrist

Small marks on hand or under watch band.

- Make small dot for each occurrence
- Group in sets of 5 for easy counting
- Transfer to data sheet at break

Method 3: Phone/Watch Taps

Use apps or watch features to discretely record.

- Counter apps with single tap
- Smart watch haptic counters
- Voice notes during transitions

Method 4: Sticky Notes

Keep sticky note on clipboard or lesson plans.

- Quick tally marks while teaching
- Code different behaviors with symbols
- Transfer data during planning

Method 5: Digital Silent Recording

Classroom Pulse's quick-log feature.

- One-tap recording from phone
- No visible indicators
- Automatic time stamps

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Best Practices

- [ ] Practice method before using with students
- [ ] Transfer data to permanent record daily
- [ ] Use consistent coding system
- [ ] Train all data collectors on same method
- [ ] Check inter-observer agreement periodically

Silent, Seamless Tracking

Classroom Pulse's mobile app allows truly discrete one-tap behavior logging without interrupting instruction.

classroompulse.io/signup

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