

Observation Method Selection Flowchart

Decision tree for matching the behavior to the right measure

classroompulse.io

Step 1

Is the behavior discrete and countable?

YES -> Frequency or rate
NO -> Go to Step 2

Step 2

Is the concern how long the behavior lasts?

YES -> Duration
NO -> Go to Step 3

Step 3

Is the concern how long it takes to start after a prompt?

YES -> Latency
NO -> Go to Step 4

Step 4

Is the behavior too frequent or continuous to count accurately?

YES -> Interval recording or momentary time sampling
NO -> Add ABC data or permanent product recording

Add Context When Needed

- Use ABC data if the team needs function clues
- Use scatterplot if you suspect a schedule or setting pattern
- Use IOA when multiple observers will collect high-stakes data

Behavior examples to test with the flowchart

Remove Guesswork From Data Collection

Classroom Pulse helps staff choose a method, log data correctly, and keep everyone using the same measurement rules.

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