Measurement of Behavior

Understanding and Changing Behavior Through Data

For Primary and Preschool Teachers















By the end of this module, learners will be able to:

- Understand and be able to implement the following behaviour measurements:
 - frequency,
 - duration,
 - interval (partial/whole), and
 - momentary time sampling.















Why measure behavior?

Make informed decisions about interventions

Track progress objectively

Identify what influences behavior















Continuous Measurement: The Basics

Records every instance of behavior

Ideal for behaviors with clear start/end points

Types:

- Frequency
- Rate
- Duration











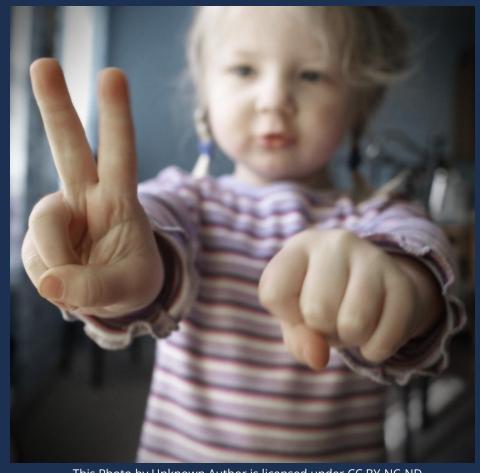




Frequency: Counting Behaviors

Simply tally how many times a behavior occurs

Easy to understand, but can be time-consuming



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Rate: Frequency Over Time

- **Key Points:**
 - Frequency divided by observation time
 - Useful when observation periods vary















Duration: How long does it last?

Measures the length of time a behavior occurs

Total duration vs. duration per episode















Discontinuous Measurement: An Overview

- Estimates behavior occurrence within intervals
- Used when continuous measurement is difficult

- Types:
 - Whole-interval,
 - Partial-interval,
 - Momentary Time Sampling.















Whole Interval: For Increasing Behaviors

- Behavior must occur throughout the ENTIRE interval
- Underestimates behavior, encouraging more effort















Partial Interval: For Decreasing Behaviors

- Behavior must occur at ANY point in the interval
- Overestimates behavior, highlighting areas for reduction















Momentary Time Sampling: A Snapshot

- Records behavior only at the END of the interval
- Efficient but may miss some instances















Choosing Your Measurement Tool

- Consider the nature of the behavior
- Continuous vs. discontinuous based on frequency, clarity, etc.















Data Collection in Action

- Use simple tools: counters, stopwatches, data sheets
- Be consistent in observation periods















Ensuring Accuracy

- Clear behavior definitions are crucial
- Train observers and check for agreement















Ethics in Data Collection

- Protect privacy and obtain consent
- Use data responsibly to benefit the individual















Visualising Your Data

- Graphs help identify trends and make decisions
- Choose the right graph for your data type















Beyond the Basics

- Explore more advanced measurement techniques
- Consider software options for data collection and analysis















Conclusion

- Data collection is essential for understanding and changing behavior
- Choose the right tools and use them consistently















Conclusion and Q&A

Questions?













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