Whole Interval Recording – Description, Procedures, & Example

If you are interested in knowing that the behavior continues without interruption you can measure the behavior by counting the number of intervals in which the behavior occurred throughout the entire interval. You should note that, in order to keep track of the time intervals, you will need some timing instrument such as a wall clock, wristwatch, or stopwatch.

Examples of behaviors that you can measure using Whole Interval Recording include writing, reading, working on the given assignment, ….

Procedures

* Write down the behavior that you will be looking for and its definition
* Write down how long you will be observing every time: Total Observation Time
* Divide the total observation time into same length intervals (here we included 10 intervals); and write down the length of each interval
  - All intervals need to be the same length: Intervals can be from a few seconds long to a few minutes long

  <u>Note</u>: **Total observation time and length of intervals need to be the same each time that you observe**
* Enter the date of your observation
* Make sure that you have your timing instrument available prior to beginning your observation
* Keep an eye on your timing instrument to keep track of the intervals
* **During each time interval:**
  - Look to see if the behavior occurs **throughout the entire interval**
  - If the behavior stops at any time, place an X for that interval
  - If, at the end of the interval the behavior is still occurring, place a checkmark (√) for that interval
* At the end of your observation time, total the number of checkmarks **(This is what you graph)**

Example

<u>Behavior</u>: On task behavior

<u>Behavior Definition</u>: Looking at the teacher while she is talking; talking to the teacher; or looking at assignment

<u>Total Observation Time</u>: 10 minutes <u>Length of each interval</u>: 1 minute

Date: 12/5	**Interval #**										**Total times behavior occurred (√)**
Time: 1:10 – 1:20 PM	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6**	**7**	**8**	**9**	**10**	
√ or X	X	√	√	√	X	√	X	√	√	X	6