

Step 5: Observe

Goal: To gather accurate data on the effectiveness of a teaching practice as a method for achieving the goal

Actions:

1. Arrive in the classroom well before the lesson to confirm that the teacher wants you to observe the lesson.
2. Find an inconspicuous spot in the classroom where you can watch the teacher and the students.
3. Position the video camera so that you will be able to record the entire lesson.
4. Set up the camera on a tripod so your hands are free to take notes.
5. After the teacher begins to use the new practice, be especially attentive for anything the teacher does well.
6. Write brief descriptions of all the positive aspects of the lesson in the comments column.
7. Put a checkmark in the OBS (observe) column beside each teaching practice you see the teacher use, and leave a blank space in the OBS column beside any teaching practices that you do not see.
8. Before leaving the classroom, confirm that you will meet at your predetermined time to discuss the lesson.
9. Download a copy of the lesson onto the teacher's computer before you leave the classroom.

Time: 15–40 minutes