

Conducting Effective Progress Monitoring for IEP Goals

A Classroom Guide for Measuring Growth and Informing Instruction

Purpose & Overview

This guide supports teachers in implementing consistent, meaningful progress monitoring for IEP goals. Progress monitoring ensures that instructional decisions are based on student performance data rather than assumptions, allowing teams to adjust supports and instruction in a timely manner.

The goal is to help teachers move beyond periodic reporting and instead use ongoing data collection, analysis, and instructional response to promote measurable student growth.

Instructional Outcomes

Using this guide helps teachers:

- Collect clear, goal-aligned performance data
 - Monitor progress at appropriate and consistent intervals
 - Identify when instruction or supports need adjustment
 - Communicate progress accurately to families and teams
 - Strengthen compliance with IEP reporting requirements
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Understanding Progress Monitoring

Progress monitoring involves regular measurement of a student's performance on skills tied directly to IEP goals.

Effective monitoring is:

- Frequent enough to show change over time
- Consistent in method and measurement
- Aligned to the exact skill in the goal
- Useful for guiding instruction

Data Collection Methods in Practice

<i>Method</i>	<i>What It Measures</i>	<i>Example</i>
Work samples	Skill accuracy or completion	Weekly writing response
Curriculum-based probes	Specific academic skill growth	Timed reading fluency passage
Behavior tracking	Frequency or duration	On-task interval chart
Observation notes	Strategy use or independence	Checklist during instruction

Multiple data sources provide a clearer picture of progress.

Teacher Implementation Reflection

- ☐ Is data collected on a consistent schedule?
- ☐ Does the data match the exact IEP goal skill?
- ☐ Is progress increasing over time?
- ☐ Are instructional changes made when progress is limited?
- ☐ Is progress communicated clearly to families and teams?

Connection to Instruction

Progress monitoring should directly influence:

- Small-group instruction
- Accommodation use
- Intervention intensity
- Goal revisions when needed

Data turns instruction into responsive teaching rather than routine delivery.

Closing Reflection

Effective progress monitoring ensures that IEP goals remain active drivers of instruction, leading to measurable growth and informed decision-making.