**Latency Recording**

Latency recording is a different type of duration recording that involves an observer measuring how long it takes for a behavior to begin after a specific verbal demand or event has occurred. For instance, a teacher may be interested in how long it takes for a kindergartner to join circle time or put his toys away once he is prompted.

*Advantages*

- When interested in the length of time between a specific cue, event, or verbal prompt and the occurrence of a behavior

- Can be used to prevent problem behavior by identifying the length of time between trigger (antecedent) and behavior, indicating when to prompt a new communication skill (for example: takes 3 seconds for student to cry after seeing a toy he wants, so prompt to ask for toy after 1 second)

*Disadvantages*

- Requires time measurement device (stopwatch, clock, audio or video tape to review later…)

- Usually requires an outside observer, may be difficult to take while teaching

*When should latency recording be used?*

- When a behavior has a clear beginning

- When you can identify a specific verbal instruction or an event that precedes the behavior of interest

- When interested in time it takes for student to respond/comply, or when interested in when to prompt a communication skill

Adapted from University of Kansas

<http://www.specialconnections.ku.edu/?q=assessment/data_based_decision_making/teacher_tools/latency_recording>

**Latency Recording Data Sheet**

**Student: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Observer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Behavior: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| Date | Activity/Instruction | Time instruction is given | Time when behavior Starts | Length of time |
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