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**Guidelines for Average Duration Recording**

**When to Use**:

* When the teacher wants to assess the average amount of time student spends engaged in an episode of behavior

**How to Use**:

* Define behavior and observe.
* When behavior occurs start timer then stop it when behavior ends.
* Record the amount of elapsed time then reset timer.
* Repeat throughout observation period.
* Calculate the total elapsed time and divide by the number of instances to get an average.

**Examples**:

* Average length of student out-of-seat episodes during math
* Average length of time that student engages with peers
* Average length of episodes of student tantrum behavior

**Advantages**:

* Measure of the average length of an episode of behavior
* Sum of all episodes can be used as cumulative duration

**Disadvantages**:

* Requires continuous observation
* Requires timing device and a type of reset after each episode

**Materials**:

* Timer of some sort (stopwatch, iPad, smartphone)

**Considerations**:

* Interval Recording techniques cannot provide information on average durations and thus are not an appropriate substitution for this method.

**Data Label**:Average amount of time of each episode of behavior.

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Scott, T. M. (2015). Data Measurement Summaries: Frequency Recording Summary. Unpublished document. University of Louisville: Louisville, KY.