

RIPL Data Bootcamp
Observations: Data Hiding in Plain Sight

Instructions: Observation Challenge

Apply what you have learned during the webinar to conduct an observation of a preschool circle time session. The observation will focus on children's level of engagement and demonstration of math-related skills.

First, review the observation guide to familiarize yourself with the type of information you will gather. Then, use the observation guide to record data while watching this video of a preschool circle time session:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PZY-hB2C_lw&t=908s

Be sure to record specific, concrete details of what you see and hear. One benefit of conducting this challenge with a video is that you can pause the video to allow you more time to record your data—and you can rewind to view activities a second time.

After you complete the observation, consider the following questions and write down a few of your reflections:

- What insight did you gain about this preschool circle time session?
- What did you find challenging about this observation challenge?
- What lessons did you learn for conducting observations in your library?

Then tune in to the recorded follow-up session during which instructors will review key takeaways from the observation challenge, offer tips for managing the logistics of observations, and share strategies for analyzing observation data.