

Analyzing Progress Monitoring Data for Individual Students

Handout 5

3-Point Decision Rule

If at least three weeks of instruction have occurred AND at least six data points have been collected, review the data using the following rules:

- If 3 consecutive data points are below the goal line, make an instructional change in the student's program.
- If 3 consecutive data points are above the goal line, consider raising the goal.
- If the consecutive data points are neither all above nor all below the goal line, continue with the student's instructional program and monitor progress.

Trendline Analysis

If at least four weeks of instruction have occurred AND at least 8 data points have been collected, figure trend of current performance and compare to the goal line using the following rules:

- If the trend of student progress is steeper than the goal line, raise the goal.
- If the trend of student progress is less steep than the goal line, make a teaching change.

Plotting a Trendline

1. Divide the data points into three equal sections by drawing two vertical lines.
2. In the 1st and 3rd sections, find the median data point and median instructional week. Locate the place on the graph where the two values intersect and mark with an "X."
3. Draw a line through the two "X's" extending to the margins of the graph. This represents the trendline or line of improvement.