Directions for Using a Direct Behavior Rating (DBR) Form

What is a DBR?
- DBR is a tool that involves brief rating of student behavior following a specified period of time (e.g. 45-minutes of math group work).
- DBR offers a defensible, flexible, repeatable, and efficient way to gather information about student behavior (for more information, see www.directbehaviorrating.org).

How to use the DBR form.
Step 1: Complete information at the top of form, including specifying the observation period.
Step 2: Review the definitions for any pre-specified target behaviors. If additional behavior target(s) are warranted for the assessment situation, define the target and write in the associated definition.
Step 3: Review the directions for rating to ensure understanding of how to use the scale.
Step 4: Immediately following the observation period, complete the ratings. Check the “no observation today” box if unable to observe the student enough to confidently rate behavior.

Example 1: Mrs. Smith is rating the % of total time that Emily was academically engaged during math instruction (10–10:44 a.m.). In this example, Emily displayed academic engagement 70% of the total observation period.

Example 2: Mr. Green is estimating the % of total time that Seth was disruptive during morning circle. Here, Seth was disruptive during 20% of the total observation period.

Example 3: Mr. White has decided to rate an additional behavior involving “gets along with peers” for John during science class (1:12–1:50 p.m.). In this example, John received a rating of 4.