

## 6 Steps to Prepare for Your Next CLASS Observation

Whether you are about to take a CLASS reliability test or head out to observe a classroom, use these steps to freshen up your CLASS lens.

- 1. Read your CLASS manual.** Highlight and add notes as you go. If you recently trained, copy essential notes from your participant guide into your manual.
- 2. Study what makes observational notes effective.** Read this document and watch this video on note taking.
- 3. Practice taking notes for each CLASS dimension.** Watch [short videos](#) that exemplify effective interactions. Take notes & compare your observations with the text provided.
- 4. Study the coding process.** Read this document and watch this video.
- 5. Practice coding.**
- 6. Reflect on your coding practices.** Use the checklist at the end of this document to evaluate your notes. Compare your scores and thinking to the master code justifications so that you can make adjustments as needed before coding again. Ask yourself:
  - Are you over/under coding consistently?
  - Are you less reliable on specific dimensions?
  - Were you way off with a specific video? Was there something about that video that you really liked/disliked that might have impacted your objectivity?

### Want more guidance?

Select the age-level you're preparing to observe for an in-depth tip sheet!

Infant

Toddler

Pre-K

K-3

Upper Elementary

Secondary

You can also explore [additional support resources here](#).