Graphing – Description, Procedures, & Example
Tieghi-Benet, 1997

In addition to measuring the behavior, it is very important to graph the measurements that you gather, as this allows you to have a visual image of the status of the behavior at any point in time.

A graph allows you to determine, at-a-glance: On average, how often the behavior of interest occurs, times when the behavior is lower, and times when the behavior is higher. By looking at a graph, you can tell right away if the behavior is increasing or decreasing, when it peaks, when it plummets... You can then follow up on this information by examining the situations surrounding times when the behavior changed.

**Procedures**

**Preparing your graph**

\[ \text{Label the horizontal axis with the time component} \]

\[ \text{Label the vertical axis with the behavior} \]

\[ \text{Number the vertical axis} \]

\[ \text{Enter the name of the behavior that you are measuring here} \]

\[ \text{Enter the time component in which you are measuring the behavior here (Ex. Days, weeks, sessions)} \]

**Entering information on your graph / Example**

* Every time that you collect information, enter it on your graph.

To place the points on the graph:

\[ \text{Look at the 1st column on your measurement form -On the horizontal axis, find the time component that represents when you collected the information (ex. Day 3);} \]

\[ \text{Look at the last column on your measurement form -On the vertical axis, find the value of the measurement (ex. 6).} \]

\[ \text{Place a dot where the horizontal and vertical lines cross; \( \varphi \) connect each dot to the previous one with a line.} \]

\[
\begin{array}{c|c}
\text{Days} & \text{Total times behavior occurred} \\
\hline
1 & 5 \\
2 & 3 \\
3 & 6 \\
4 & 5 \\
5 & 8 \\
6 & 4 \\
7 & 5 \\
8 & 5 \\
9 & 7 \\
10 & 7 \\
\end{array}
\]
Graphing Form

Student’s Name: ______________________   Teacher: ____________________   Subject/Period: _________________

Date(s): _______________________   Next meeting Date/Time/Place: ________________________________________

Procedures: For directions on how to fill out this form, please look at p. 1
* If you need more space, please make copies of this form
* Bring this information to the next meeting

Behavior ________________________________________________________________

Method of Measurement: ___________________________________________________________