



# FRUM

Optimizing Learning Opportunities for Students: OLOS

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The Early Learning Network is funded by the Institute of Education Sciences.

#### In remembrance



#### **Carol McDonald Connor**

Dr. Connor was the creative mind behind OLOS and the observation systems on which it is based.

Carol McDonald Connor



## What is OLOS?

- An observation system that can capture the classroom experiences of individual children in the same classroom.
- Focused on students.
- Designed to be used for and by practitioners with a focus on providing actionable information for teachers to support individualized instruction.



OLOS assessment tool.



### Optimizing Learning Opportunities for Students (OLOS) - Students



OLOS allows for up to 3 children to be coded simultaneously.



# Optimizing Learning Opportunities for Students (OLOS) – Example 1



Example teacher screen with math selected as the content area.



# Optimizing Learning Opportunities for Students (OLOS) – Example 2



Example teacher screen with literacy selected as the content area.



### What is OLOS? (Demo)





## Why Does OLOS Matter?

Differentiated instruction is key for student success.

#### WHY DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION?

Classrooms are filled with students who:



## ELN's Contribution: Nationwide Study

	Pre-K	Kinder	1st	2nd	3rd	Totals
# of classrooms	79	30	17	16	12	154
# of students	717	267	159	160	102	1405

Sample of students across pre-K to third grade.

- Included urban and rural schools.
- Diverse income, ethnic, and racial backgrounds.



# ELN's Contribution: Nationwide Study (Cont.)



#### Flow chart of assessment periods.

- Observations of pre-K included all in-classroom activities on a single day.
- Observations of K-3 included the literacy and math blocks.
- Observations standardized at 120 minutes.



### What We Learned

#### Literacy

- On average across the sites, students spent very little time learning letters and letter sounds in pre-K (less than 5 min. of a two-hour observation), slightly more time in kindergarten (10-15 min.), but almost no time by third grade (1 min.).
- Time spent in meaning-focused activities steadily grew across grades.

*Time in meaning-focused activities* 



#### *Time in code-focused activities*

### What We Learned: Literacy

- For individual pre-K children, the closer teachers aligned their code-focused instruction to students' current needs, the more growth was observed on code-based reading skills for those children.
- For individual pre-K children, the more meaningfocused activities teachers provided, the more growth in code- and meaning-focused literacy skills for those children.



### What We Learned: Math



*Time in math activities in 2 hours* 

- Math activities were much more common in kindergarten than in pre-K.
- In pre-K, total time in math activities was not related to math gains.
- In kindergarten, total time in math activities was related to math gains, especially for children with low math skills.



### What We Learned: Math (Cont.)

Distribution of math activities in pre-K and kindergarten



# How feasible is OLOS with practitioners in real classrooms?



# **OLOS Online Training**

Home		OLOS Reliability Training	🔊 Ed							
Modules										
Discussions										
Announcements	Ø	Navigating this Course - START HERE								
Rubrics	Ø									
Assignments	Ø									
Grades	Ø	Play media comment.								
Outcomes	Ø									
Quizzes	Ø									
Conferences	ø	Welcome to The OLOS Coding System!								
Collaborations	Ø									
Pages	Ø	1 Intro to module								
Files	Ø	Optimizing Learning Copy link								
People	Ø	Opportunities for								
Syllabus	Ø	Studente (NOC)								
Settings		Students (PDS)								
		UCI Training Module								
		ALL LEARNING VETWORK OLOSSobservations Overlande Learning Operations Overlande Learning of California, Irvine								
		Watch on DYouTube								

OLOS is designed to be a practitioner friendly observation system that relies on technology to make practical, and reliable, careful observation of individual students participating in learning activities. OLOS has been designed as a professional development tool to improve teaching and classroom practices. Focusing primarily on language, literacy, and mathematics instruction, OLOS captures the content of the learning opportunity, students' participation in the learning opportunity, and teachers' moves that facilitate effective opportunities to learn for individual children. The system also includes more global assessments of the quality of the learning environment and structural aspects of the classroom.

#### Screenshot of OLOS Reliability Training website.

### **Training and Certification Process**

#### **DURATION: 81.5%**

Score

Student 1 81.5%

#### **DURATION CODE TIMELINES**

#### **STUDENT 1**

Subject



5:30

6:30

7:30 8:00 8:30 9:00

9:30



#### Gold 0:00 0:3

1:00 1:30 2:00 2:30

Scored



3:00

3:30

4:00 4:30

Behavior





### What We Learned: Classroom Use

 Practitioners can be trained in and meet high standards for accurate and reliable use of the OLOS system after either an online or in-person training.



#### Practice for Certification



#### Test for Certification

Practitioners > Researchers F(1, 116) = 10.18, p = .002 Practitioners = Researchers F(1, 116) = 0.17, p = .68



# What We Learned: Classroom Use (Cont.)

 Teachers reported finding the information provided by the OLOS system valuable to their instruction. They particularly liked the online teacher dashboard immediately available upon completing an observation.

"I was very pleased to see this data and would be curious to see this again to help me develop." "I see OLOS as a tool that both teachers and administrators can use to understand the student experience in the classroom." "I see these kids all day, every day. The data matched what I expected."



### **OLOS** Teacher Dashboard

#### **Student Moves**

**Observed Occurrences** 

#### **OBSERVATION OVERVIEW**

Navigate Overview

#### What Your Data Means

These graphs give a summary of the types of instruction that were observed in your classroom as well as the context in which that instruction was given. You can also see the kinds of talk you and your students participated in during the observation.



Screenshot of teacher dashboard with observational data.

# OLOS Teacher Dashboard (Cont.)

#### **OBSERVATION OVERVIEW**

Navigate Overview

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Screenshot of teacher dashboard with observation overview.

# OLOS Teacher Dashboard (Cont. 2)

#### **STUDENT DETAILS:**





Navigate







Screenshot of teacher dashboard with student details.

### Conclusion

- OLOS gives teachers detailed information about the classroom experiences of individual children.
- These results are immediate and provide actionable information for individualizing instruction.
- Differentiated learning opportunities in literacy and math led to more growth.
- There are promising results for reliable and feasible use with practitioners.







# Thank You

The Early Learning Network is funded by the Institute of Education Sciences.

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