

Activity 2.2: Recording observations

Materials needed

Video/DVD.

Copies of blank observation checklists.

Use of video



Using observation – recording objective observations: Use for **activity**. Participants will watch the sequence featuring a learner called James in a group activity and record their observations in real time.

Instructions

1. Explain how the activity enables participants to practise making objective observations in real time.
2. Tell the group you are going to play a video sequence featuring a learner called James taking part in an activity to build a paper tower. Their task is to write down every aspect of his behaviour that they notice. At this stage, you aren't interested in what skill areas his behaviours might fit into. It's purely an exercise in recording observations.
3. Play the video from start to finish, whilst participants write down their observations.
4. Replay the video, asking participants to raise their hand at each piece of behaviour for which they made an observation.

5. Facilitate a group discussion of whether the observations made were 'objective' or had judgements, opinions or interpretations mixed in.

6. Draw attention to any behaviours that participants overlook.