

Performance Objectives The Baynum Way Examples Connecting Literacy Instruction and Standards

There are different types of objectives. For example, behavioral objectives are popular and start with the behavior the student will demonstrate, i.e. the student will be able to write a sentence. Performance objectives are another type of objective that describe instruction. Performance objectives are connected to standards, either Pennsylvania Department of Education or national standards, such as International Reading Association. Performance Objectives focus on students' demonstration of knowledge and skills. These objectives are written in a particular format to ensure all components are included. Use the following definitions and examples to better understand how to write performance objectives.

The Format

Condition: The situation or resource that is planned for students.

Ask Yourself: What will be given to the students by the teacher or used to complete the assignment (books, a small group, a partner, an amount of time).

Helpful Hint: Always begin the objective with an introductory phrase.

- Use a term that creates a clause
Example: In a mixed ability group,

Behavioral Verb: The action word that describes the students' behavior. The verbs are based on a list from Bloom's taxonomy or Levels of Comprehension.

Ask Yourself: What action or activity will be asked of the student.

Helpful Hint: Don't write an objective an objective without the Bloom's list of words next to you. I still do this. Don't use the words learn, understand, know as verbs. These words are not measurable. Don't start the objective with the student will be able to do...

Example: students will orally describe

Criterion: (the most significant component) the level of measure or what specifically is expected from the student to successfully complete the performance

Ask Yourself: What am I looking for exactly? What am I willing to accept as a successful completion of the assignment? Can I create a rubric or assessment tool from the details listed in the criterion?

Helpful Hint: Use the standards as the specific pieces of information or process needed to complete the performance.

Example: two main characters, one supporting character's actions, attitudes and physical descriptions

Don't use a % or sum...

(use an amount)

or go over (use evaluate or review)

using
after
before
with
in

at least
all
the

Examples of Performance Objectives

After writing a story, students will replace four commonly used words with descriptive words. (ELEM I.A., I.B., I.C., II.F.) (RWLS: 1.1, 1.3)

Answering questions from different categories, students will create an all about me book including at least three descriptive facts. (ELEM I.A., I.B., I.C., II.D.) (RWLS 1.1, 1.3.)

Identifying the Components

Directions: Using the samples provided, attempt to identify all three components. Use the highlighting scheme to show your level of accuracy.

After reading Sunrise as a whole group, all fourth grade students will compose one paragraph including a topic sentence, three detail sentences and one concluding sentence describing sunrise at their respective houses. (RWLS: 1.1, 1.3., 1.4, 1.5)

Using the format, write at least two complete performance objectives for two different content areas.