

TEMPLATE FOR TAKING FIELD NOTES	
Date:	
Site:	
Activity:	
Participants:	
Length of Observation:	
Summary	
Write a one paragraph summary or abstract of the day's events. Include analytic description, such as today was a good example of code-switching.	
Narrative	
Write a detailed narrative of what you observed. Use (OC: _____) for observer comments.	

Questions/Things to follow up with

Three dimensions of fieldwork

- Descriptive
- Interpretative
- Reflexive

Descriptive fieldwork

- The most objective (as objective as it can be) and the fieldworker is as detached as they can be from the participants they are describing.
- Empiricist approach
- Descriptive Fieldwork Example: I have a new comer, 11 students in the bilingual program, 8 students that are transiting out of the program, and 7 other students in my class. Three students that are in the bilingual program also have IEPs for a learning disability.

Interpretative fieldwork

- This is the observer's stance of what they are observing.
- More value-laden, subjective, and evaluative
- Interpretative Fieldwork Example: My students are always working with each other, and helping each other learn. Some students are hardworking, others are lazy, and others go beyond their means to assure a good grade.

Reflexive Fieldwork (teacher inquiry)

- More introspective. Thinking about the change that is occurring to the fieldworker.
- The observer's commentary
- Analysis happening in this part
- Reflexive Fieldwork Example: (OC: As a community, we've experienced a few issues this year that dealt with culture- there has been some conflict between a girl of Indian descent and a few of the girls who are Mexican American, and it required some intervention and discussion. My partner and I are concerned about bullying and intimidation in general, and have seen fifth-graders show social aggression before, but get especially worked up if anyone is picked on because of his or her ethnicity.)