

Making the Most of Your Progress Monitoring Data: Aimlines & Trendlines

Definitions:

Aimline: This line shows the trajectory needed for the student to reach the benchmark by the end of the year.

Trendline: This line shows the student's current trajectory based on several recent data points.

Mid-date: Of three data points, the data point in the middle according to date (mark with a vertical line.)

Mid-rate: Of three data points, the data point in the middle according to score (mark with a horizontal line.)

Intervention Change Line: Vertical line drawn *after* the last data point of the previous intervention.

Guidelines:

Drawing an Aimline:

1. Plot the student's score from the screening.
2. Using a ruler, draw a line connecting the screening score to the end of year benchmark (bull's eye).

Drawing a Trendline:

1. Start with at least seven data points.
2. Divide data points into three sections using vertical lines. The two outer sections should have three data points each.
3. In the first and third sections, calculate the mid-date (draw a vertical line) & mid-rate (draw a horizontal line).
4. Mark the points on the graph where the two values intersect.
5. Connect the points to draw the trendline.

Redrawing the Aimline: Every time an intervention is changed, the aimline should be redrawn. This means that the slope will be steeper, and the intervention will need to be more intense for the student to reach the end of year benchmark.

1. Using the last three data points, find the intersection of the mid-date & mid-rate.
2. Draw a new aimline from this point to the end of year benchmark.

(Tip: Erasing the old aimline or color-coding changes helps to avoid confusion.)

(Adapted from TTSD OrRTI handouts)