

Sample Anecdotal Notes

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Math

This student is working above level on spiraled homework. She is one of three students out of 50 who receives above grade-level homework. Many of the homework concepts have not been taught previously. She also is very adept at explaining the process she has taken to solve math problems. Advanced math vocabulary is often part of this explanation. She knew inverse operations when no one else had heard of this concept.

Science

One day in science class there was a term (geosphere) that was unfamiliar to me. When I asked the class if they knew this word, the students responded with the definition and an appropriate example, attempting to make sure I understood the word and how it was different from the biosphere and hydrosphere. No other student knew any of those words.

Often the student gives examples in class that others are unfamiliar with. For instance, when discussing shapes in nature, the student named a species of bird, while most students responded with more general examples such as dogs, cats, clouds, etc. This student has shown complete knowledge of two out of three science units as measured by the unit test given prior to beginning our study. I regularly give him permission to go ahead and start on the daily assignment while I am still speaking to the whole group.

Reading

This student scored in the 9th stanine on the fall GRADE test, one of only 3 students across 3rd grade to do so. In her reading notebook, she casually uses words such as redundant and altercation (taken directly from her notebook). I can expect to see at least two of these types of words in her weekly entries, if not more.

After reading *Baseball Saved Us* by Ken Mochizuki, about Japanese American families sent to internment camps after the attack on Pearl Harbor, she read three non-fiction books from the public library about internment camps. I overheard her telling another student how internment camps were different from concentration camps.

Avoid stock descriptions that could describe lots of children.

The student goes beyond what we are learning...in what way?

She thirsts for knowledge...about what and how is this shown?

He knows many science topics that have not been covered in class...what was said or mentioned?

The student is one of my top performers...on what and how many others are on a similar level?