# Writing Measurable IEP Goals and Objectives: A Comprehensive Guide

Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) are legal documents that outline the educational services and supports that students with disabilities need to succeed in school. One of the most important parts of an IEP is setting measurable goals and objectives. These goals and objectives guide instruction and provide a way to track student progress.



#### Writing Measurable IEP Goals and Objectives

by Barbara D. Bateman

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Writing measurable goals and objectives can be a challenge. However, it is an essential skill for special education teachers and other professionals who work with students with disabilities. This guide will provide you with everything you need to know about writing measurable IEP goals and objectives.

#### What are Measurable Goals and Objectives?

Measurable goals and objectives are statements that describe what students are expected to learn or be able to do by the end of a specific period of time. They are written in a way that allows teachers and other professionals to track student progress and evaluate the effectiveness of instruction.

To be measurable, goals and objectives must meet the following criteria:

- Specific: They must be clear and specific, so that there is no question about what the student is expected to do.
- Measurable: They must be able to be measured or observed, so that progress can be tracked.
- Attainable: They must be challenging but realistic, so that students are motivated to achieve them.
- Relevant: They must be aligned with the student's needs and educational goals.
- Time-bound: They must have a clear end date, so that progress can be evaluated.

#### **How to Write Measurable IEP Goals and Objectives**

Follow these steps to write measurable IEP goals and objectives:

- Start with the student's present levels of performance. What does
  the student currently know and can do? This information can be found
  in the student's evaluation report.
- 2. **Identify the student's needs.** What areas does the student need to improve in order to succeed in school? This information can be found in the student's evaluation report and other assessments.
- 3. Write a goal that is specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART). The goal should describe what the student will be able to do by the end of the IEP period.
- 4. Write objectives that support the goal. Objectives are smaller, more specific steps that the student will take to achieve the goal.
- 5. Make sure the goals and objectives are aligned with the student's individualized education program (IEP). The goals and objectives should be based on the student's unique needs and should be designed to help the student make progress towards their educational goals.

#### **Tips for Writing Measurable IEP Goals and Objectives**

- Use action verbs that describe observable behaviors.
- Avoid using vague or general language.
- Be specific about the criteria that will be used to measure progress.
- Set realistic timelines for achieving goals and objectives.
- Make sure goals and objectives are challenging but attainable.

 Collaborate with the student, parents, and other professionals involved in the student's education.

### **Examples of Measurable IEP Goals and Objectives**

Here are some examples of measurable IEP goals and objectives:

Goal	Objectives
Reading Goal: The student will improve their reading fluency.	<ul> <li>The student will read 100 words per minute with 90% accuracy.</li> <li>The student will be able to retell the main idea of a story.</li> </ul>
Math Goal: The student will improve their math skills.	<ul> <li>The student will be able to add and subtract numbers up to 20.</li> <li>The student will be able to solve simple word problems.</li> </ul>
Behavior Goal: The student will improve their behavior in the classroom.	<ul> <li>The student will remain in their seat for at least 15 minutes at a time.</li> <li>The student will not engage in disruptive behavior, such as talking out of turn or interrupting others.</li> </ul>

Writing measurable IEP goals and objectives is an essential skill for special education teachers and other professionals who work with students with disabilities. By following the steps outlined in this guide, you can write goals and objectives that are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and timebound. These goals and objectives will help students to make progress towards their educational goals and succeed in school.



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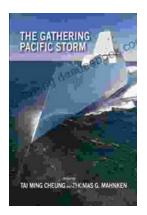
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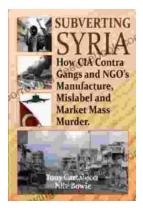
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