

## Anecdotal Note Taking

There are many different methods to taking anecdotal notes. My favorite method is utilizing a pad of sticky notes, which I use during class time. Some notes are on groups as a whole and some on individual students. During the course of a class period I will write a note about five times. I will note which students are actively engaged in working in their groups or individual writing, which groups seem to be working well and not relying on the teacher to answer all of their questions, which groups give up easily and rely too much on the teacher, and which students are easily distracted from group activities.

After class, I will transfer my notes to either a lined notebook or a Word document. I will stick my notes on one side of the page and expand on my observation on the other side. I can use these notes to conference with groups or individual students who seem to be having a problem with the assignment so that they can better achieve success.

Another method would be to compile a checklist, based on the student narrative observations, and check off students or groups as often as you wanted to make the observations.