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WWC **QUICK Review**

“Gathering Feedback for Teachers: Combining High-Quality Observations with Student Surveys and Achievement Gains”

What is the study about?

This study examined five instruments used to assess the effectiveness of teacher practices based on classroom observations. The study first examined whether observers could reliably assess teachers with each instrument, and then examined how well each instrument, along with other information, predicted student achievement.

The New Quick Review

In March 2012, the WWC began using a new format for quick reviews to allow for a faster release. When a more complete review is conducted for the study described here, this information will be updated.

What did the study report?

The study reported that, in order to reliably assess a teacher using the instruments, it was necessary to combine scores from multiple lessons and observers. It also found that teachers’ observation scores were positively related to their students’ achievement test scores, particularly when the observation scores for teachers were combined with students’ feedback on their classroom environments.

Handy Definitions

- ▼ *quick review*
- ▼ *study rating*
- ▼ *meets evidence standards*
- ▼ *meets evidence standards with reservations*
- ▼ *does not meet evidence standards*

How does the WWC rate this study?

The WWC only reviews studies that examine the impact of particular programs, policies, or practices on student outcomes. This study provides information on how to assess teacher practices reliably in the classroom and identifies some classroom observation tools that are correlated with student achievement. However, it does not examine the impacts on student outcomes associated with performance measures of teachers and, therefore, it is not eligible for review by the WWC.

See the *full glossary* ►

Citation

Kane, T. J., & Staiger, D. O. (2012). *Gathering feedback for teachers: Combining high-quality observations with student surveys and achievement gains*. Policy and practice brief prepared for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

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