

What is CLASS®?

What does CLASS mean?

- + CLASS stands for Classroom Assessment Scoring System.
- + The interactions educators have with children impact learning, development—even lifelong achievement. CLASS is the observation tool developed to assess these interactions: from infant care through 12th grade.
- + CLASS enables high quality interactions that lead to improved academic and social-emotional outcomes for students.



Where did CLASS come from?

The story of CLASS begins in the 1990s at the University of Virginia Curry School of Education where researchers were studying factors of early childhood development. They learned that interactions impacted child outcomes and that such interactions could be objectively measured. Looking at interactions rather than environmental factors was a new school of thought, and in 2007, The Federal Office of Head Start adopted CLASS as a way to measure and improve child outcomes. To scale CLASS to meet growing demand, Bob Pianta, PhD, and Bridget Hamre, PhD, founded Teachstone in 2008.

What is involved with CLASS observations?

- + CLASS observations are completed by Teachstone-trained CLASS observers who assign scores to specific educator behaviors and student responses.
- + Children learn differently at each age level, so CLASS observers must be certified for the age level they observe: Infant, Toddler, Pre-K, K-3, Upper Elementary or Secondary education.

Who uses CLASS today?

- + The focus on effective interactions is growing. CLASS has been adopted by programs all over the world, helping millions of children succeed in the classroom and beyond.
- + Research has shown that to deliver on the promise of CLASS, organizations need to couple observations with professional development. That's why many organizations and states use CLASS as a part of their professional development programs.

What sets CLASS apart?

- + **Trusted Research:** Over 200 studies confirm CLASS works. Children in classrooms with higher CLASS scores have better social, emotional, and academic outcomes.
- + **Proven Experience:** The CLASS methodology is backed by decades of academic research and hundreds of thousands of educators have been observed by certified CLASS observers. Teachstone has worked with organizations in 50 states to create a culture of excellence that impacts students, staff, and the community.
- + **Powered by Innovation:** Teachstone's interactive trainings bring CLASS to life for educators, coaches, and observers. Our online tools and exercises use intuitive technology to help you collect data, provide coaching, and, ultimately, improve educator-student interactions.