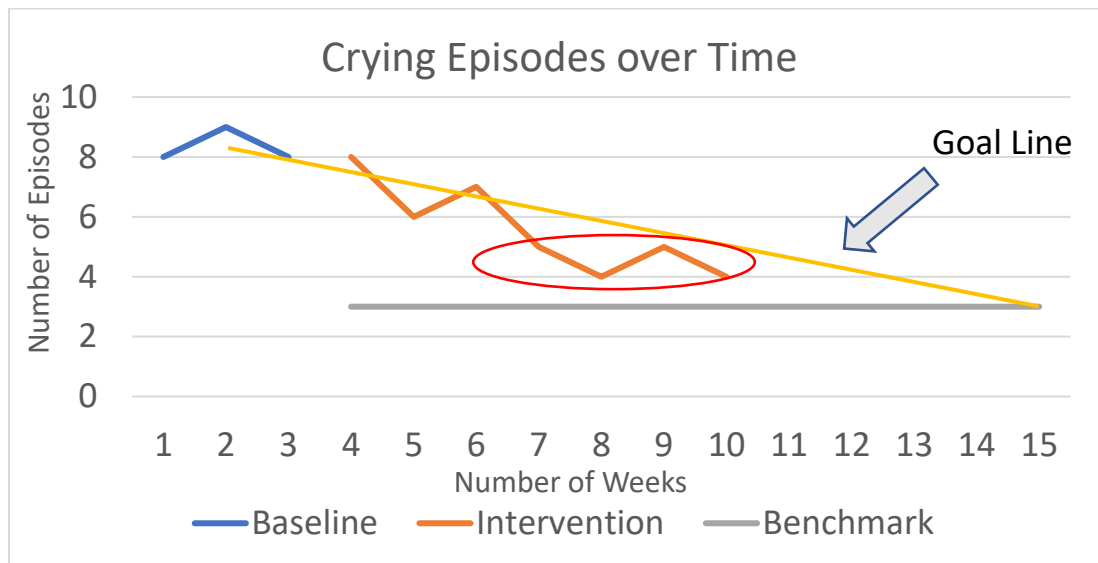


## Visual Analysis of Progress Monitoring Data

**Basic Facts:** Progress monitoring data is compared to the baseline data to determine if a child's performance has improved. Baseline data must consist of three data points. Progress monitoring data must consist of at least six data points. There are many ways to analyze data, consider the following two visual analysis methods:

### Four-Point Method

Look at the four most recent data points collected and determine if all four data points are above or below the goal line. A goal line is the expected rate of progress over time. A goal line is constructed by connecting the data point representing the child's baseline and the data point corresponding to the child's goal. If the goal is to increase a behavior or skill, four points above the goal line indicates that the child is making progress. If the goal is to decrease a behavior, four points below the goal line indicates that the child is making progress. Significant variability or scatter in the progress monitoring data may indicate that the intervention is not being implemented consistently or other factors impacting the child's progress have not been considered.



### Trend Line Analysis

A trend line, a line that best fits all the data collected, is drawn and then compared to the goal line. If the trend line is projected to intersect with the goal line by the end of the intervention period, then the child is making adequate progress. If the trend line is not projected to intersect with the goal line by the end of the intervention period, then the child is not making adequate progress. The slope of the trend line can also be considered. If the slope of the trend line is



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significantly steeper than the goal line, then the goal should be raised. If the slope of the trend line is significantly flatter than the goal line, then the intervention should be adjusted.

