Evaluation

What is a
program evaluation?
What are some purposes?

Provide an example.
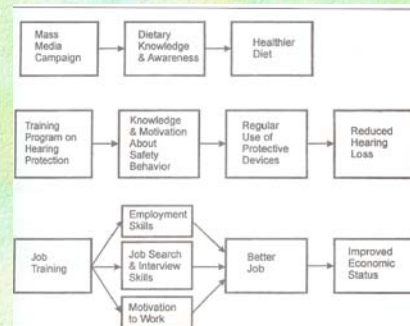
- program improvement
- accountability
- generation of knowledge

Types of Evaluations:

Program ⟶ Program ⟶ Target
Theory   Functions   Population

Program theory is a set of
assumptions about how an
intervention (i.e., program
functions) produces outcome

Program Impact Theories
(from Rossi, 2007)

Areas of a program that
can be evaluated:

1. needs assessment
2. assessment of theory
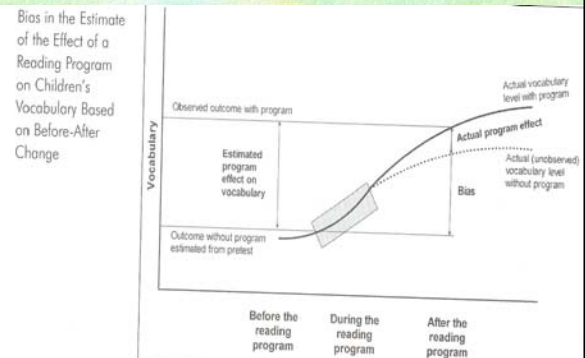3. implementation
4. impact
5. cost-benefit

What methods can be used
to conduct evaluations?

1. interviews
2. observation
3. documents
4. experimental Design

What can be done to ensure that any effect found is the result of the intervention and not something else?

- experimental design
- randomized controls
- matching
- statistically equated controls

Results from an experimental design:
Effects of a reading program on vocabulary

How is a
quasi-experiment
different from a
randomized experiment?

What is a
"non-equivalent control group"?

The methods used typically depend on the perspective taken. How might the method vary with the perspective of the:

individual?
stakeholder?
community?

What is the importance of stakeholders and the evaluation sponsor?

How can stakeholders and sponsors effect the evaluation?

- Legitimately--Determine the objectives and purpose of the design

- Illegitimately--Can attempt to influence the results

Thank You.