

Assessment of Lagging Skills & Unsolved Problems Inventory

(adapted from Dr. Ross Greene, Psychologist & Author of "The Explosive Child")

Child's Name: _____

Date: _____

Person Filling out Checklist: _____

Relationship to Client: _____

Please indicate child's lacking skills observed in the past several weeks or since last rating. Check all that apply.

Executive Skills

- these deficits are what we call "leaky brakes over attention" or "leaky brakes over impulses"
- when a report uses terms like "ADD", "ADHD", or "central auditory processing disorder", it is often executive skill deficits that are being talked about

1. _____ Difficulty handling transitions, shifting from one mindset or task to another, adapting to new circumstances or rules
2. _____ Poor sense of time/difficulty doing things in a logical or prescribed order
3. _____ Disorganized/difficulty staying on topic, sorting through thoughts, or keeping track of things
4. _____ Difficulty considering the likely outcomes or consequences of actions (impulsive)
5. _____ Difficulty considering a range of solutions to a problem

Cognitive Flexibility Skills

- these deficits are what we call "leaky brakes over thoughts"
- when a report uses terms like "OCD" or "autistic spectrum", it is often cognitive flexibility skill deficits that are being talked about

1. _____ Concrete, black-and-white thinker; often takes things literally
2. _____ Insists on sticking with rules, routine, original plan
3. _____ Does poorly when things are unpredictable, ambiguous, uncertain
4. _____ Difficulty shifting from original idea or solution; possibly perseverative or obsessive
5. _____ Difficulty appreciating another person's perspective or point-of-view
6. _____ Doesn't take into account situational factors that suggest the need to adjust a plan of action
7. _____ Inflexible, inaccurate interpretations/cognitive distortions or biases (e.g. Everyone's out to get me, Nobody likes me, You always blame me, It's not fair, I'm stupid, Things will never work out for me)

Language Processing Skills

- when a report uses terms like “receptive language disorder”, “expressive language disorder”, or central auditory processing disorder, language processing skill deficits are being talked about

1. _____ Often has difficulty expressing thoughts, needs or concerns in words
2. _____ Often appears not to have understood what was said
3. _____ Long delays before responding to questions
4. _____ Difficulty knowing or saying how he feels

Emotion Regulation Skills

- these deficits are what we call “leaky brakes over mood”
- when a report uses terms like “bipolar disorder” or “intermittent explosive disorder” or “rage”, it is often emotion regulation skill deficits that are being talked about

1. _____ Difficulty staying calm enough to think rationally (when frustrated)
2. _____ Cranky, grouchy, grumpy, irritable (even when not frustrated)
3. _____ Sad, fatigued, tired, low energy.
4. _____ Anxious, nervous, worried, fearful
5. _____ In new situations, holds feelings in until he’s comfortable, then starts to melt down

Social Skills

- when a report uses terms like “nonverbal learning disorder (NLD)” or “autistic spectrum”, it is often social skill deficits that are being talked about

1. _____ Difficulty attending to or misreading of social cues/poor perception of social nuances/difficulty recognizing nonverbal social cues (e.g., facial expression, body language, tone of voice)
2. _____ Lacks basic social skills (how to start a conversation, how to enter a group, how to connect with people)
3. _____ Seeks the attention of others in inappropriate ways; seems to not know ways to seek attention in socially acceptable ways
4. _____ Seems unaware of how behaviour is affecting other people; is surprised by other’s responses to his behaviour
5. _____ Lacks empathy; appears not to care about how behaviour is affecting others or their reactions
6. _____ Poor sense of how he is coming across or being perceived by others
7. _____ Inaccurate self-perception (doesn’t see self the way most others do)

Triggers (Situations, Events, Problems) List

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____