

Sensory Integration Symptom Checklist

for School-Aged Children

All children exhibit some of the following difficulties at times. It is important to separate the occasional concerns from the persistent concerns and not worry about an isolated incident, which may be insignificant for the child as a whole.

- Has trouble with cutting or tracing activities
- Has difficulty reading or copying from the blackboard (slow or labored)
- Has difficulty spacing letters as they are written
- Reverses letters more often than his/her peers
- Sometimes reads words backwards
- Eyes tire easily; frustrated with writing and/or reading
- Does not have normal hand dominance, or solid skill with either hand
- Gets right and left confused often
- Hyperactive, distractible, or poor attention span
- Has trouble holding his head up while sitting
- Becomes tired easily
- Frequently fidgets and/or shifts body position while seated in a chair
- Is not really good at sports or does not enjoy them
- Has difficulty with eye-hand coordination tasks
- Plays too rough; takes excessive risks during play
- Gets confused with directions or forgets
- Often stands too close to other people or bumps into them
- Moves too slowly or too quickly
- Becomes anxious when feet leave the ground
- Has an unnatural fear of falling or fear of heights
- Does not enjoy, or really craves movement activities such as exploring playground equipment
- Dislikes or craves rough-housing, somersaults, rolling on the floor or jumping
- Is threatened when other people move him
- Constantly touches or leans on people/objects
- Has not learned to do many self-help activities
- Has trouble putting on clothes, using buttons or zippers and putting on shoes
- Distressed with the feeling of certain clothes, tags, socks/shoes, hair washing &/or tooth brushing routines
- Picky eater; dislikes certain tastes or textures of food
- Craves certain foods; frequently mouths non-food items (i.e.- chews on shirt or pencils often)
- Does things in an inefficient way
- Appears weak or has low muscle tone
- Is accident-prone/clumsy (i.e.- spilling/tripping)
- Needs more protection than other children
- Is more emotionally sensitive; feelings are easily hurt; expresses not being liked by self or others
- Cannot tolerate upsets in plans or expectations
- Bruises, bumps and cuts seem to hurt more than they do with other children
- Is often stubborn or uncooperative; has frequent tantrums, meltdowns or emotional outbursts
- Has a strong need to be in control and a hard time accommodating others (peers /adults)
- Has a shortage of skills; has to practice each skill over and over
- Has trouble with pencil control; messy written work
- Lacks confidence with performance-based activities (i.e.- writing, playing games)
- Is slow or hesitant to learn new games or skills

Please contact our office staff if you have concerns about your child's abilities and/or overall performance. We would be happy to assist you in determining if an occupational therapy evaluation is necessary.