

CHAPTER 4: IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS WITH SENSORY INTEGRATION

Building Bridges Sensory Screening

VESTIBULAR

Hyper-responsive

- ☐ appears fearful of playground equipment
- ☐ becomes sick easily in cars, elevators and rides
- ☐ appears fearful of heights/stair climbing
- ☐ avoids balancing activities
- ☐ avoids participation in sports/games

Hypo-responsive

- ☐ seeks fast-moving activities
- ☐ engages in frequent spinning, jumping, bouncing and running
- ☐ constantly moves their head
- ☐ has difficulty staying still

TACTILE

Hyper-responsive

- ☐ avoids touch or contact
- ☐ dislikes and avoids messy play
- ☐ appears to be irritated by clothing or food textures
- ☐ becomes irritated if someone is too close

Hypo-responsive

- ☐ constantly touches objects
- ☐ seems to have difficulty using an object (pencil) unless it is heavy/textured or vibrates
- ☐ constantly mouths objects

PROPRIOCEPTIVE

Hypo-responsive

- ☐ exerts too much or too little pressure when handling objects

BUILDING BRIDGES THROUGH SENSORY INTEGRATION

- ☐ has difficulty assuming body positions necessary to perform different tasks
- ☐ seeks more than typical rough-and-tumble play
- ☐ seeks deep pressure by squeezing into tight places
- ☐ needs extra-firm pressure to relax when massaging

VISUAL

Hyper-responsive

- ☐ appears uncomfortable in sunlight or strong light
- ☐ appears sensitive to changes in lighting
- ☐ has difficulty looking at screens
- ☐ has difficulty watching faces
- ☐ moves their fingers in front of their eyes constantly
- ☐ likes to watch falling items

Hypo-responsive

- ☐ notices visual differences
- ☐ focuses on shadows, reflections and spinning objects
- ☐ seeks out new visual sensations

AUDITORY

Hyper-responsive

- ☐ becomes upset with loud or unexpected sounds
- ☐ hums or sings to screen out unwanted sounds
- ☐ dislikes certain sounds (vacuum, hair dryer)

Hypo-responsive

- ☐ seeks out sound
- ☐ turns up the volume on electronic devices/the TV

OLFACTORY (SMELL) / GUSTATORY (TASTE)

Hyper-responsive

- ☐ dislikes strong smells or tastes

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- ☐ has a limited food repertoire
- ☐ gags at the sight/smell of certain foods

Hypo-responsive

- ☐ frequently has his/her hands in his/her pants
- ☐ smears his/her feces
- ☐ eats non-edible foods
- ☐ seeks out new smells/tastes