

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

CHAPTER 4: IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS WITH SENSORY INTEGRATION

- 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