

Demystifying Sensory Approaches to Intervention for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

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Sensory Experiences in Daily Life



Photo by Heshan Perera from Unsplash





Sensory Experiences are "Multi-Modal"

Photo by Daisy Anderson from Pexels

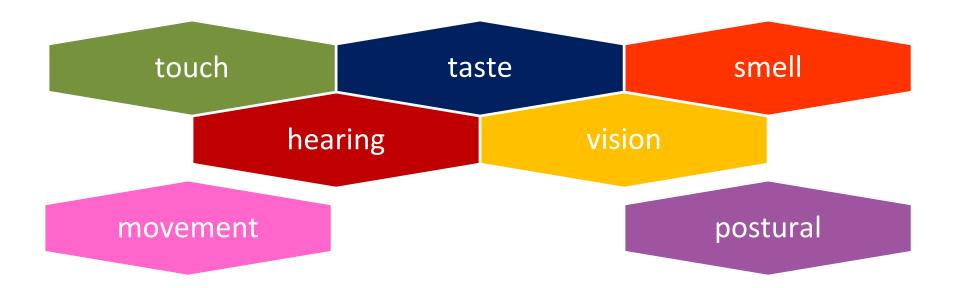






Sensory Experiences are "Multi-Modal"

Photo by Heshan Perera from Unsplash

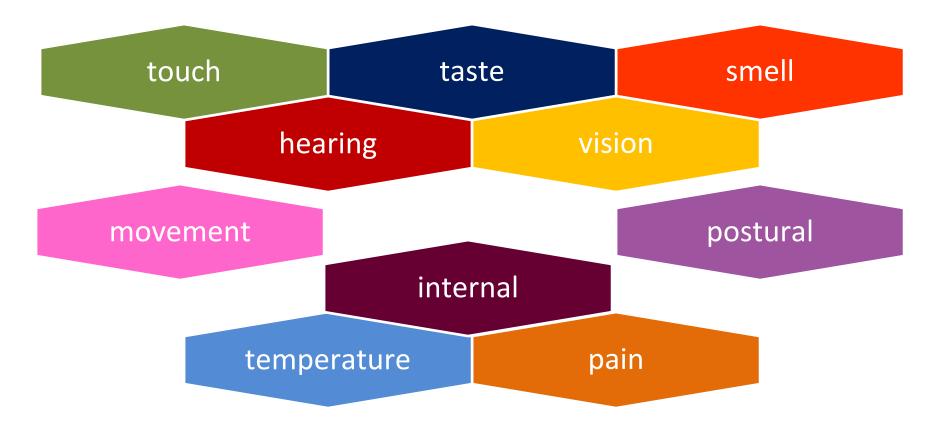






Sensory Experiences are "Multi-Modal"

Photo by Heshan Perera from Unsplash





Objectives

Recognize	Understand	Consider
common sensory features in children with ASD and their potential impact on daily life routines.	differences across sensory approaches: ASI [®] , sensory-based interventions, & sensory environmental modifications.	optimal ways to communicate with team members about sensory issues and interventions.



Common Sensory Features in ASD



Photo by Jennifer Borget from Cherish 365

- Sensory features are highly prevalent in ASD and reported across all modalities
- Differences may appear very early in life
- These are intricately linked with motor planning challenges
- May diminish as children mature and gain coping skills, but sensory patterns are noted to be stable over time

Ausderau et al., 2014; Baranek et al., 2006; Baranek et al., 2019; Dunn et al., 2002; Miller et al., 2007



Types of Sensory Processing Challenges

Sensory Modulation

Sensory Discrimination

Sensory-based Motor (Dyspraxia)



Sensory Modulation

- The brain's ability to filter sensations and regulate an optimal level of alertness
- Sensory modulation difficulties may result in trouble processing the nature or intensity of sensory input to be matched to the demands of the environment
- Three common patterns:
 - Sensory Over-responsivity
 - Sensory Under-responsivity
 - Sensory Seeking



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• Patterns may co-occur (Ausderau et al., 2014; 2016)



Sensory Over-Responsivity

- Characterized by an exaggerated or aversive response to sensory stimuli (that wouldn't bother most people)
 - Other terms: hyperresponsiveness; sensitivities; defensiveness
 - Examples: child shows discomfort to grooming or haircuts or covers ears to block out sounds
 - Potential Impacts: easily distressed in busy environments; avoids specific activities (e.g., tooth brushing; picky eating; hypervigilance; sleep problems; anxiety)
- Child interview (age 11 y/o) (Kirby et al., 2015)
 - In response to unpleasant sounds: "It feels like heart is beating (pause) and um, my, uh, my whole body's shaking.... and my eyes, uh, they start to blink a lot."



Photo by Xia Yang from Unsplash



Sensory Under-Responsivity

- Characterized by a lack of, less intense, or delayed response to sensory stimuli (that most people would notice quickly)
 - Other terms: hyporesponsiveness; poor registration
 - Examples: child does not notice/orient to a novel sound; has diminished response to pain
 - Potential Impacts: may miss important learning and social opportunities; safety concerns; passive in classroom (gets less attention if not a behavior problem)
- Parent interview:

"If he gets hurt...he will be bleeding and he will cry just for a second and then it will be over with, and he will have a huge goose bump. Most kids this age would be screaming and crying for awhile."



Photo from lovelyadlinalin's blog



Sensory Seeking

- Characterized by a fascination with or craving of sensory stimulation, which is intense and may be repetitive in nature
 - Other terms: sensation seeking; intense sensory interests or cravings
 - Examples: child may show a fascination with flickering lights, rubbing textures repeatedly, or craving deep pressure
 - Potential Impacts: may seem preoccupied; repetitive behaviors with body or objects; trouble disengaging attention to something more important; safety issues
- Parent interview:

"Even before we knew he was autistic, he bounced and bounced and bounced...even for a 2 year old that was a lot of bouncing. We used to call him our Tigger boy."



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Sensory Discrimination

- The brain's ability to tell the difference between two different stimuli, which helps you effectively interact with objects and perform daily tasks
- May result in trouble recognizing objects, distinguishing different flavors, finding your place on a keyboard, etc.
- Some children with ASD show "Enhanced Perception" or the ability to perceive differences in stimuli with better than average ability



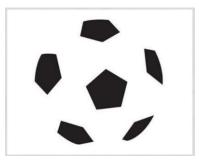
Photo by Volodymyr Melnyk from Alamy Stock Photo



Enhanced Perception (EP)

- Characterized by <u>superior</u> acuity, awareness, and/or discrimination of specific sensory elements
 - Other terms: hyper-acuity; detail-oriented; "eagle-eyed"
 - Examples: Child notices a sound or smell before others do; recognizes perfect pitch or minor differences in visual patterns
 - Potential Impacts: Very skilled with some tasks (e.g., puzzles); good at noticing details/targets; challenges seeing "gestalt"; synesthesia

Bury et al., 2020; Mottron et al., 2006





- Praxis is the brain's ability to direct motor action
 - Involves conceptualizing & planning purposeful movements
 - Knowing "what" to do and "how" to do it
- Dyspraxia refers to developmental causes of motor planning challenges that stem from problems integrating sensory information (e.g., proprioception, tactile, vestibular senses)
- Children with dyspraxia may appear clumsy, have trouble imitating movements, and may struggle with playing sports, manipulating fasteners, or tool use (writing/cutting), etc.
- May lead to challenges with internal "body scheme", self-esteem, play/leisure, and social participation.



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Sensory Processing Challenges: Impact on Family Participation



Photo by Frank Porter Graham from Child Development Institute, UNC

- Sensory processing challenges experienced by one child may affect the whole family across multiple areas of family life
 - Meals, sleep, social participation, leisure and education (Ismael, Lawson, & Hartwell, 2018; Schaaf, Toth-Cohen, Johnson, Outten, & Benevides, 2011; Bagby, Dickie, & Baranek, 2012)
- Family activities and routines may change (Bagby et al., 2012; Pfeiffer et al., 2017)
 - Parents spend more time preparing for activities
 - Family members may have to do things separately, which decreases shared meaning of activities
 - Parents may actively avoid activities or environments that are a "bad fit" for their child's sensory preferences



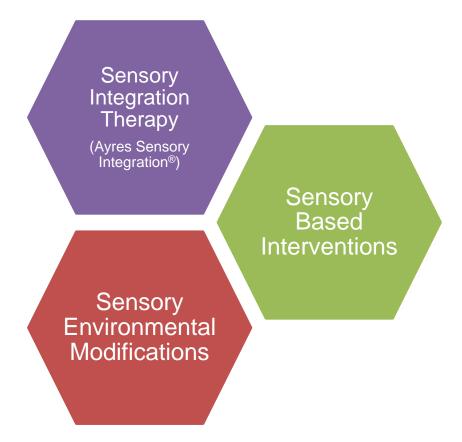
Sensory Processing Challenges: Impact on Family Participation

- Higher levels of sensory over- and under-responsivity have been associated with more caregiver strain. (Ausderau et al., 2016; Ben-Sasson et al., 2013; Gourley et al., 2013; Kirby et al., 2015; Nieto et al., 2017)
- Challenges increase under unusual circumstances (e.g., pandemic) -- typical routines are disrupted and social participation is restricted.
- Thus, occupational therapists are often consulted for strategies that may help with the child or family unit to engage more successfully in daily activities or "occupations".



Photo by Trojan from Shutterstock





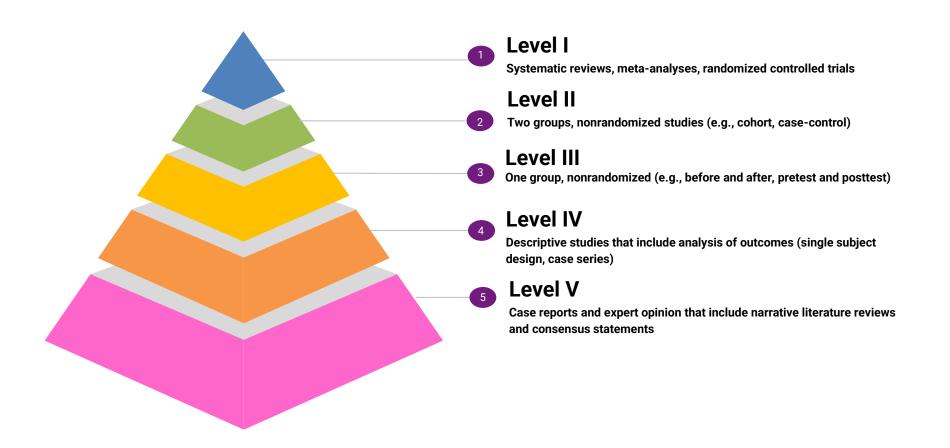
Three General Categories of Sensory Approaches







Levels of Research Evidence



USC Chan Division of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy



Photo from Tumble N' Dots Pediatric Therapy Clinic



Photo by Phil Channing from USC Chan

Sensory Integration Therapy (Ayres Sensory Integration®)

Photo by Phil Channing from USC Chan



Photo from Bergen Pediatric Therapy





Sensory Integration Therapy

- Established by A. Jean Ayres, PhD, OTR, FAOTA
 - Based on years of theoretical development and empirical studies about children with significant sensory processing challenges, including ASD
- "Sensory integration is the organization of sensations for use"
- The term sensory integration has been used to describe a variety of treatments



ASI[®]

(Ayres & Robbins, 2005)



Photo from Sensory Integration Global Network



Sensory Integration Therapy

(Also known as ASI[®])

What is It?

ASI®

- A child directed treatment involving:
 - a trained therapist
 - a large room with specialized sensory equipment
 - sensory input focusing on body movement and touch

What is the purpose?

- "...to provide and control sensory input... in such a way that the child spontaneously forms the adaptive responses that integrate these sensations" (Ayres & Robbins, 2005)
 - An adaptive response is "a purposeful, goal directed response to a sensory experience"



Photo from Baptist & Reflector

ASI®



Ayres Sensory Integration (ASI[®])

- Ayres Sensory Integration (ASI[®]) was trademarked in 2007 to differentiate Sensory Integration Therapy, as established by Dr. Ayres, from other sensory based interventions and approaches.
- It was trademarked to maintain the core principles developed by Dr. Ayres.

(Smith Roley et. al., 2007)



Photo by Julie Bissell, USC Chan



Core Components of ASI®

- Provide a range of **sensory opportunities**
 - tactile, proprioceptive, and vestibular
- Promote self-regulation and alertness
- Challenge posture and motor planning
- **Collaborate** on activity choices
- Create the "just-right challenge"
- Support internal motivation to play



ASI[®]

Photo by Phil Channing from USC Chan

(Parham et al., 2011)



Photo by Ashley Weycer from Pinterest



Core Components of ASI®

- A qualified therapist
- Physical environment
 - Individualized arrangement of equipment
 - Suspended equipment to hang swings
 - Bouncing and climbing equipment, crash pillow, scooter board, weighted objects, etc.
- Collaboration with parents and/or teachers

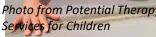
Photo by Phil Channing from USC Chan

ASI[®]









(Parham et al., 2011)





Fidelity Measure for Ayres Sensory Integration[®]

- A fidelity measure was developed for research to specifically assess outcomes of ASI[®]
- Fidelity is the "the extent to which an intervention is faithful to its underlying theoretical and clinical guidelines" (Parham et al., 2007)
- The measure:

ASI®

 Provides a basis to analyze previous and future research studies using ASI[®]



Photo from Summit Pediatric Therapy



ASI[®] Research Evidence

Evidence and Effectiveness:

• Three Level 1 Studies

Schaff et al., 2014

ASI[®]

• Level 1 Evidence



Photo by Phil Channing from USC Chan

- Children with ASD between 4 to 8 years
- Treatment group improved in:
 - Individual goals
 - Independence in daily life (decreased assistance from caregivers)
 - Social participation





ASI[®] Research Evidence

Pfeiffer et al., 2011

ASI[®]

- Level 1 Evidence
- Children with ASD 6-12 years
- Treatment group improved in:
 - Individual goals



- Autism mannerisms (decreased)



Photo by Jaime Sumersille from Sensory Beans children's gym







ASI[®] Research Evidence

Kashefimehr, Kayihan & Huri, 2017

- Level 1 Evidence
- Children with ASD ages 3-8 years
- Treatment group improved in:
 - Communication and interaction skills
 - Motor skills
 - Sensory processing abilities



Photo from Tumble N' Dots Pediatric Therapy Clinic





Photo from Little Bins for Little Hands





Photo by Robson from CBC Parents

Photo by Ximena Balderas on Unsplash



Sensory Based Interventions (SBIs)



Photo by Courtney Shea from NAPA Center



Photo by Wolff from Miss Bindergarten's Classroom



Photo by Pham from Unsplash

Sensory Based Interventions (SBIs)

Passive SBIs:

Adult-directed

SBI

- Applied to child *or* placed on/in an object/device
- Stand alone *or* fit into child's daily routine

Examples: brushing; weighted vests/blankets; massage; being rocked, bounced, or swung passively



Photo by Courtney Shea from NAPA Center



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Photo by Courtney Shea from NAPA Center



Photo by Pham from Unsplash

Active SBIs:

- Child-led (active role)
- Child initiates and/or engages in intervention
- Fits into child's daily routine

Examples: "heavy" work, animal walks, fidget toys, food/snacks



Photo by Robson from CBC Parents



Case-Smith et al., 2015



Passive SBIs: Weighted Vests

What is it?

SBI

Vest that provides proprioceptive input to muscles and joints

What is the purpose?

- Increase focus and attention
- Improve arousal regulation
- Decrease anxiety

Evidence & Effectiveness:

Photo from Courtney Shea from NAPA center

- Level IV evidence
 - No effect on in-seat behavior (Cox, Gast, Luscre, & Ayres, 2009)
 - No effect on stereotypical behaviors in ASD & ADHD (Lin, Lee, Chang, & Hong, 2014; Hodgetts, Magill-Evans, & Misiaszek, 2001)
 - No effect on problem behaviors or joint attention (Leew, Stein, & Gibbard, 2010)
 - No effect on engagement during table-top activities (Reichow, Barton, Sewell, Good, & Wolery, 2010)
- Level I evidence
 - Improved in-seat behavior and attention for children with <u>ADHD</u> (Lin, Lee, Chang, & Hong, 2014; Buckle et al., 2011)





Passive SBIs: Brushing

What is it?

SBI

- Using a brush to apply firm, even pressure to the body (arms, hands, legs, feet)
- Most commonly used: Wilbarger Protocol [a.k.a the deep pressure and proprioceptive technique (DPPT)] (*Wilbarger & Wilbarger*, 1991)

What is the purpose?

- Provide deep pressure to children who may be very sensitive to touch
- Improve emotion and behavior (Bodison & Parham, 2018)

Evidence & Effectiveness:

• Level IV evidence



Photo from Guo Hua Therapy & Consultation Center

- Wilbarger protocol had no significant effect on stereotypical behavior (Davis, Dunrand, & Chan, 2010)
- Brushing (DPPT or nonspecific technique) promoted increased performance on school tasks (Benson, Beeman, Smitsky, Provident, 2011)





SBI

Active SBIs: Fidget Toys

What is it?

- Small, portable tool (e.g., stress ball, putty, fidget cube, scrunchy, beads) often used in the home or school
- Should be chosen based on child's sensory needs

What is the purpose?

- Provide organizing tactile input
- Improve focus, attention, self-regulation, and participation (Biel, 2017)

Evidence & Effectiveness:

- Level IV evidence
 - Fidget spinners did not improve auditory attending in children with ASD (Cihon et al, 2020)



Photo by Ximena Balderas on Unsplash



Photo from Little Bins for Little Hands





Active SBIs: Proprioceptive Input ("Heavy" Work)

What is it?

SBI

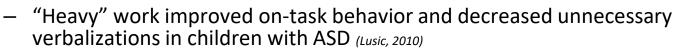
- Input to muscles, joints, and tendons
- Receive proprioceptive input through "heavy" work (e.g., pushing, pulling, climbing)

What is the purpose?

- Improve internal sense of force & pressure
- Internalize where body is in space
- Calm, alert, and/or organize behavior

Evidence & Effectiveness:

Level IV & Level V evidence



 Per parent report, "heavy" work increased focus, attention, and decreased stimming behaviors (Peña & Ripat, et al., 2021)



Photo from Integrated Learning Strategies (ILS) Center





SBI

Sensory Schedules

What is it?

- Schedule of SBIs specifically embedded into child's daily routine
 - Based on child's sensory needs
 - Prescribed by an OT
 - Sensory not cognitive

What is the purpose?

- Provide sensory input in various contexts throughout the day
- Regulate attention and arousal level

Evidence & Effectiveness:

- Level IV evidence
 - Facilitated classroom participation and decreased problem behaviors (Pingale et al., 2019; Pingale, 2021)
 - Improved sensory processing, emotional understanding and self-awareness (Barnsley, 2021)
 - Facilitated improvements in performance of classroom tasks (Mills, Chapparo, & Hinitt, 2016)







Sensory Schedules: Example

Time	Activity	SBI
7:30-8:00am	Breakfast	Eat crunchy or chewy foods for breakfast (e.g., waffle, granola)
8:30-9:00am	Before circle time	"Heavy work" (e.g., hold door open for classmates, pick up books and put back on shelf)
10:00-10:30am	During reading	Sit & bounce on therapy ball
10:30-10:45am	During recess	"Heavy work" (e.g., 20 wall push-ups, swing, or climb on playground)
11:00-11:10am	Walking from classroom to library	Wear backpack with books; push computer cart
3:00-3:30pm	After school homework time	Alternative seating (e.g., standing up, propped up on elbows for reading)
7:30-8:00pm	Before bed	Calming sensations (e.g., take a warm bath, listen to soft, rhythmic music, diffuse lavender oil)







Pinterest.com

Sensory Environmental Modifications



Unsplash.com



Flickr.com





Sensory Environmental Modifications

Changes to the physical space to optimize engagement and participation.

- Adapting the environment, rather than the activity
- Support sensory modulation & self regulation
- Could include reducing aversive stimuli or adding opportunities for more sensory stimulation (or both!)

Visual

SEM



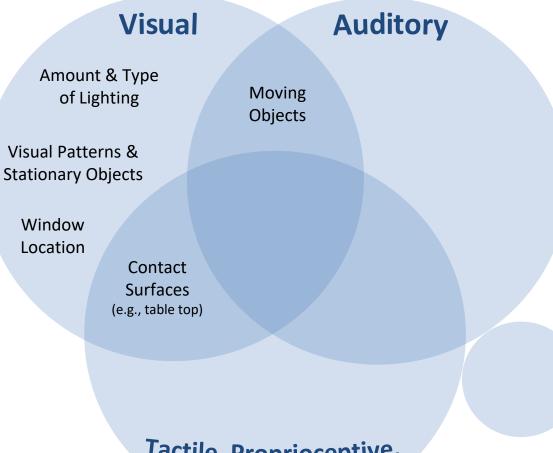
Elements of the Sensory Environment to Consider

Auditory

Tactile, Proprioceptive, & Vestibular



Elements of the Sensory Environment to Consider



Tactile, Proprioceptive, & Vestibular



Elements of the Sensory Environment to Consider

Visua	1	Auditory
Amount & Type of Lighting	Moving Objects	Foreground Sounds (e.g., teacher talking, movie playing)
Visual Patterns & Stationary Objects Window Location Contact Surfaces (e.g., table to		Background Sounds (e.g., clocks, air conditioning, street traffic) Flooring Type

Tactile, Proprioceptive, & Vestibular



Elements of the Sensory Environment to Consider

	Visua		Αι	uditory	
	nt & Type ighting erns &		oving ojects	Foreground S (e.g., teacher t movie playi	alking,
Window Location					Background Sounds (e.g., clocks, air conditioning, street traffic)
	Contact Surfaces (e.g., table to		Flo	ooring Type	
	1	Novement	Opportunit	ies	Smells
	Tempe	rature	Seating/Fu	rniture	
Tactile, Proprioceptive, & Vestibular					



Elements of the Sensory Environment to Consider

	Visual		Auditory	
	t & Type shting rns &	Moving Objects	Foreground (e.g., teacher movie play	talking,
Stationary O Window Location		Openness of Space Number of People	Flooring Type	Background Sounds (e.g., clocks, air conditioning, street traffic)
	M Tempera	ovement Opportu ture Seating/	nities /Furniture	Smells
Tactile, Proprioceptive, & Vestibular				



Sensory Environmental Modifications in the **Home**

Can be highly individualized

Visual

SEM

- Lamps or dimmed overhead lights
- Desk near window for natural light
- Solid color walls vs. patterned wallpaper



Flickr.com

Tactile, Proprioceptive, & Vestibular

- Adjustable standing desk/table
- "Crash Pad" corner with beanbags, pillows, cushions, etc.
- Cushioned bathmat in bathtub



Auditory

- Digital vs. analog clocks
- Soft instrumental music playing during nonpreferred tasks
- Carpet or rugs to absorb sound







Sensory Environmental Modifications in the Classroom

Broad range of options + reduction of common adverse stimuli

Visual

SEM

- Minimal items on walls ٠
- Curtain covering up ٠ bookcases
- Halogen vs. fluorescent • lights (Kinnealey et al., 2012)

Tactile, **Proprioceptive**, & Vestibular

- Work surfaces at different heights
- Variety of seating options (e.g. rocking chairs, therapy balls)
- Sensory rooms

(Piller & Pfeiffer, 2016)

Auditory

- Acoustic wall or ceiling • paneling (Kinnealey et al., 2012)
- Other sound-dampening • materials (e.g. rugs, curtains)
- Furniture arranged to • create quiet corner







Jnsplash.com







Sensory Environmental Modifications in the **Community**

Broad range of supports + specialized experiences



SEM

visitphilly.com

Resources incorporated into 'Business as Usual':

- Sensory maps
- Social narratives highlighting the sensory environment
- Sensory break spaces (reduced stimuli)

Special Events

(Sensory-Friendly Saturdays or Relaxed Performances):

- Reduced, restricted admission resulting in smaller crowds
- Speaker volume reduced
- Balanced lighting
- Sensory break spaces
- Relaxed social expectations

~ Research Highlight ~

Sensory Adapted Dental Environments (Cermak et al., 2016)

Dental clinics featuring:

- Dark/dim lighting
- Slow moving image projection
- Calming music
- Deep pressure from a "butterfly" wrap



Cermak et al., 2016



Other Environmental Considerations



- Access to & Acceptability of sensory strategies
- Capacity & Support for sensory environmental modification
- Attitudes of inclusivity



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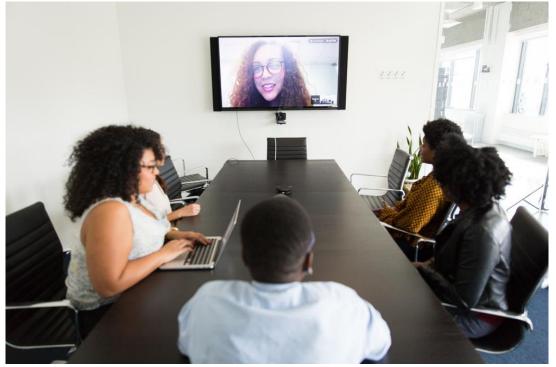


Photo by Christina from Unsplash

Communicating about Sensory-Based Interventions with an Interdisciplinary Team









Why Track Data in Practice?

- Useful in team communication
- Evidence for the match or mismatch between a child's needs and an intervention
- Structure and credibility to documentation
- Opportunities to advocate for needed services
- Can contribute to empirical research in your field
- Informs evidence-based practice



Photo by Avel Chuklanov from Unsplash



When to Track Data in Practice

- For daily documentation and progress notes
- Before, during, and after beginning a new intervention
- Across several class periods or different days



Photo by Kuanish Reymbaev from Unsplash

Consistency is key!



How to Track Data in Practice

- Track data in the context of the intervention
- Choose what you're measuring:
 - Level of independence?
 - Frequency, intensity, impact of behavior?
- Decide who will track the data
- Determine when and for how long data will be tracked



Photo by Kuanish Reymbaev from Unsplash



Child's name:					
Target behavior:	Target behavior:				
Person observing:					
Date:					
Time:					
Context:					
Number of times the					
behavior occurred:					
Average across observations:					



Child's name: Calvin					
Target behavior:∨ísua	Target behavior: Visually distracted during work time				
Person observing: Tea	Person observing: Teacher's aíde				
Date:					
Time:					
Context:					
Number of times the					
behavior occurred:					
Average across observations:					



Child's name: Calvin					
Target behavior:∨เ์รนต	Target behavior: Visually distracted during work time				
Person observing: Tea	Person observing: Teacher's aíde				
Date:	10/3/2021				
Time:	12:30-1:15pm (math lesson)				
Context:	Classroom				
Number of times the	H11 1111				
behavior occurred:					



Child's name: Calvin					
Target behavior: ∨ísua	Target behavior: Vísually dístracted during work time				
Person observing: Tea	cher's aíde				
Date:	10/3/2021	10/4/2021	10/5/2021		
Time:	12:30-1:15pm (math lesson)	12:30-1:15pm (math lesson)	12:30-1:15pm (math lesson)		
Context:	Classroom	Classroom	Classroom		
Number of times the	HTT 1111	HHT HHT	141 111		
behavior occurred:					
Average across observations:			9		



After Implementing the Intervention

Child's name: Calvin					
Target behavior: ∨ísua	Target behavior: Vísually dístracted during work time				
Person observing: Tea	cher's aíde	_			
Date:	10/11/2021	10/12/2021	10/13/2021		
Time:	12:30-1:15pm (math lesson)	12:30-1:15pm (math lesson)	12:30-1:15pm (math lesson)		
Context:	Classroom	Classroom	Classroom		
Number of times the	111	11	tttt		
behavior occurred:		"			
Average across observations:			3		



Potential Challenges

Diverse clinical languages

Possible Solutions

- Define your terms
- Choose terms for the team to use consistently

Cascio et al., 2016; Gasiewski et al., 2021



Potential Challenges

Diverse clinical languages

Differing perceptions of approaches

Possible Solutions

- Define your terms
- Choose terms for the team to use consistently
- Actively listen
- Communicate treatment plans openly
- Share your clinical reasoning

Cascio et al., 2016; Gasiewski et al., 2021



Potential Challenges

Diverse clinical languages

Differing perceptions of approaches

Concerns about effectiveness

Possible Solutions

- Define your terms
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- Actively listen
- Communicate treatment plans openly
- Share your clinical reasoning
- Track data during your daily practice
- Partner with local universities to inform and participate in research
- Read empirical evidence



Potential Challenges

Diverse clinical languages

Differing perceptions of approaches

Concerns about effectiveness

Mismatched expectations

Possible Solutions

- Define your terms
- Choose terms for the team to use consistently
- Actively listen
- Communicate treatment plans openly
- Share your clinical reasoning
- Track data during your daily practice
- Partner with local universities to inform and participate in research
- Read empirical evidence
- Clearly communicate boundaries
- Respect boundaries set by others
- Share preferred method of contact

Tips for Parents

- Track your own data on your child's behavior at home to share with the team
- Ask clinicians about their clinical reasoning process:
 - What research evidence is there for this intervention?
 - How are you measuring whether or not this works for my child?
 - How did you choose this treatment for my child?
- Communicate changes in your child's life:
 - Daily routine
 - Services or medications
 - Context (e.g., new school, birth of a sibling, moving to a new home)











Benefits of Effective Team Communication



Photo by Christina from Unsplash

- Improvement in child outcomes
- Comprehensive approach to service delivery
- Larger body of research evidence
- Respectful, collaborative environment that promotes cohesiveness, well-being, and satisfaction



Conclusions and Takeaways

There are many sensory approaches implemented across contexts, settings, and providers. They include Ayres Sensory Integration[®], sensory based interventions, and sensory environmental modifications.



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The research evidence for these interventions varies in rigor, so clinical expertise and other forms of evidence help inform decisions about which intervention(s) to use.



Conclusions and Takeaways

There are many sensory approaches implemented across contexts, settings, and providers. They include Ayres Sensory Integration[®], sensory based interventions, and sensory environmental modifications.

The research evidence for these interventions varies in rigor, so clinical expertise and other forms of evidence help inform decisions about which intervention(s) to use.

It is important to track data about whether an intervention is working or not and communicate with the interdisciplinary team about how clinical decisions are made.



ASD & Sensory Processing Researchers at USC Chan

- Dr. Grace Baranek & Dr. John Sideris: Innovations in Neurodevelopmental Sensory Processing Research (insp!re)
 - <u>https://chan.usc.edu/inspirelab/people</u>
- Dr. Mary Lawlor: Boundary Crossings
 - <u>https://chan.usc.edu/research/core/boundary-crossings</u>
- Dr. Bobbi Pineda: Occupational Therapy NICU Lab
 - <u>https://chan.usc.edu/people/faculty/Bobbi_Pineda</u>
- Dr. Amber Angell:
 - <u>https://chan.usc.edu/people/faculty/Amber_Angell</u>
- Dr. Sharon Cermak: Sensory Adaptations in Dental Environments
 - <u>https://chan.usc.edu/research/core/sade</u>
- Dr. Leah Stein Duker: Environmental Barriers & Facilitators for Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder during Primary Care Health Encounters
 - <u>https://chan.usc.edu/people/faculty/Leah_Stein_Duker</u>
- Dr. Lisa Aziz-Zadeh: The Relationship Between Brain Functioning, Behavior, and Microbiota in Autism Spectrum Disorder; A-Z Lab
 - <u>https://chan.usc.edu/research/core/social-cognitive-neuroscience</u>



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