

Early Childhood ASD Observation Outline

	What are you looking for...	Notes...
Basic Information	<i>Name, date, grade, setting & number of adults to student ratio</i>	
Social Communication	<i>Makes sounds or repeats words/phrases; immediate or delayed echolalia; interprets language literally; difficulty with rules of conversations; fails to initiate or respond to greetings; difficulty with gestures; difficulty asking for help; makes irrelevant comments; difficulty expressing thoughts/emotions; speaks in overly formal way; advanced vocabulary; gives false impression of understanding; talks incessantly</i>	

<p>Social Interaction</p>	<p><i>Use of eye contact; personal space; ability to join in group activities; level of involvement in activity; “appear rude?”; understanding OTHERS nonverbal communication; withdrawals internally; waits turn; shares materials; seeks adult attention appropriately; is sought by others; works cooperatively with others; ignores inappropriate behavior of others; appropriately responds to assistance of others</i></p>	
<p>Restricted Interests/Repetitive Behaviors</p>	<p><i>Need for routine or sameness; absorbed in own unique interests; asks repetitive questions; unmotivated by customary rewards; repetitive hand movements; difficulty handling change or transitions; need for closure or difficulty stopping a task before it is completed</i></p>	

<p>Basic Classroom Skills Observed</p>	<p><i>Difficulty following directions; displays extensive knowledge in narrow area of interest; poor problem-solving skills; organizational skills; easily distracted; difficulty knowing what is relevant or off-topic; knows facts & details by difficulty with abstract reasoning; difficulty applying knowledge learned in new settings; manages own materials; transitions between activities; attends to tasks or speaker; begins work independently; checks work for errors; responds constructively to teacher correction</i></p>	
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<p>Sensory Observations/Motor Observations</p>	<p><i>Responds in an unusual way to sounds, pain, taste, texture, visual stimuli, temperature, smells, touch; makes noises such as humming or singing frequently; balancing difficulties; resists or refuses handwriting; poor handwriting; writes slowly; awkward gait; unusual body postures or facial expressions; difficult starting & stopping actions (may rely on physical or verbal prompts)</i></p>	
<p>Other Observations</p>	<p><i>Difficulty understanding connection between behavior and resulting consequences; easily stressed; appears depressed or sad; unusual fear response; appears anxious; has "melt downs"; self-injurious behavior; difficulty tolerating mistakes; low frustration tolerance; makes negative comments about self; limited understanding of others or own emotions and emotional responses; difficulty managing stress/anxiety</i></p>	