EARLY CHILDHOOD ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDERS EVALUATION SCALE (ECADDES)

Stephen B. McCarney, Ed.D.

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The Early Childhood Attention Deficit Disorders Evaluation Scale (ECADDES) enables educators, school and private psychologists, psychiatrists, pediatricians, and other medical personnel to evaluate Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder in females ages 24 through 83 months and males 24 through 78 months of age from input provided by primary observers of the child's behavior. The ECADDES was developed from research in behavior disorders, learning disabilities, and Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder; current literature in psychology, neurology, and education; and current practices in identification and diagnosis. The subscales, Inattentive and Hyperactive-Impulsive, are based on the most currently recognized subtypes of ADHD. The results provided by the scale are commensurate with criteria used by educational, psychiatric, and pediatric personnel to identify Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder in children. The scale is available in two versions: School Version (56 items), a reporting form for educators, and Home Version (50 items), a reporting form for parent/guardian input.

During development, the **ECADDES** was subjected to field testing on children ages 24 to 84 months which resulted in the items included in the final version of each scale. The **ECADDES School Version** was standardized on a total of 2,887 children distributed evenly across all age levels. Demographic characteristics of the standardization sample represent national percentages of gender, residence, race, geographic area, and occupation of parents.

Internal consistency of the **ECADDES** was .99 for the total scale. Test-retest reliability correlation coefficients exceeded .89 for each of the two subscales. Coefficients for inter-rater reliability of the subscales ranged from .64 to .66 for all age levels. Content validity was established through the initial development process. The **ECADDES** was compared to the Conners' Teacher Rating Scale-28 and the Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorders Test as a measure of concurrent criterion-related validity. Each subscale reached p<.01 level of confidence when compared with the other scales. Item performance correlated positively with total scale performance, further substantiating the internal cohesiveness of the scale as a measure of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder.

The **ECADDES** uses frequency-referenced quantifiers. Each item on the ECADDES is rated on a five-point scale from (0) DOES NOT ENGAGE IN THE BEHAVIOR to (4) ONE TO SEVERAL TIMES PER HOUR. Following administration, four types of scores may be obtained: frequency rating for each item (reflecting the frequency and severity of the behavior), subscale raw score (the sum of the frequency ratings for each subscale), subscale standard score (a consistent basis for comparing students), and a percentile score (a global index of all behavior measured within the total scale). Using the subscale standard scores, a profile of the child's level of functioning across the two subscales may be constructed.

The **ECADDES** takes approximately 20 minutes to complete and can be completed by anyone who is familiar with the child: the classroom teacher, other school personnel, or the parent/guardian. The ECADDES complete kit consists of **School** and **Home Version Rating Forms** and **Technical Manuals**, **ECADDES/DSM-IV Forms**, the *Early Childhood Attention Deficit Disorders Intervention Manual*, and the *Parent's Guide to Early Childhood Attention Deficit Disorders*.

The Early Childhood Attention Deficit Disorders Intervention Manual (ECADDIM) includes goals, objectives, and interventions for all behaviors on the scale and was designed for the convenient development of the child's IEP. The Parent's Guide to Early Childhood Attention Deficit Disorders (PGECADD) contains interventions for parents to implement in the home to help their child with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder. The Early Childhood Attention Deficit Disorders used in conjunction with the ECADDES provide a comprehensive assessment, diagnostic, and prescriptive program for children with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder. The ECADDES Quick Score computer program converts raw scores to standard and percentile scores. The computer version of the Early Childhood Attention Deficit Disorders Intervention Manual provides an individualized printout of IEP goals, objectives, and specific intervention strategies selected for a student. A computer version of the Parent's Guide to Early Childhood Attention Deficit Disorders is also available.



SCHOOL VERSION RATING FORM

Stephen B. McCarney

COVER SHEET

RATING GUIDELINES

- The student should be rated by educators with primary observational opportunities who interact directly with the student during instructional situations.
- Any number of educators may rate the student.
 Each person should independently rate (i.e., without conferring with others) the student using a separate rating form.
- It is not necessary to complete the rating of a student in one day. Several days may elapse before the rater is able to complete the scale.
- It is recommended that the rater read each quantifier with the item before rating the item. Using item 28 as an example, the rater would first read, "Does not grab things away from others," then "One to several times per month grabs things away from others," then "One to several times per week grabs things away from others," then "One to several times per day grabs things away from others," and finally "One to several times per hour grabs things away from others."
- If the rater has not personally observed the student demonstrate the behavior, the rating should be

0

DOES NOT ENGAGE IN THE BEHAVIOR.

 If the rater has observed the student for more than one month and the behavior has been demonstrated one to several times (i.e., one to three times), the rating should be

1

ONE TO SEVERAL TIMES PER MONTH.

 If the behavior has been demonstrated one or more times per week, even several times per week (i.e., one to four times), the rating should he

2

ONE TO SEVERAL TIMES PER WEEK.

 If the behavior has been demonstrated at least once a day or more than one time a day (i.e., one to four times), the rating should be

3

ONE TO SEVERAL TIMES PER DAY.

 If the behavior has been demonstrated at least once an hour and included behaviors with unlimited frequency which may even defy accurate counting at extremely high rates, the rating should be

4

ONE TO SEVERAL TIMES PER HOUR.

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(800) 542-1673



H A W T H O R N E Phone: (800) 542-1673 FAX: (800) 442-9509

	TO RATER: Rate every item using the quantifiers (0-4) provided.									
			Every item must be rate							
		DOES NOT ENGAGE	ONE TO SEVERAL	ONE TO SEVERAL	ONE TO SEVERAL	ONE TO SEVERAL				
		IN THE	TIMES PER	TIMES PER	TIMES PER	TIMES PER				
		BEHAVIOR	MONTH	WEEK	DAY	HOUR				
		0	1	2	3	4				
			SUBSCALE 1	<i>3</i> 14.	Does not perform or compl					
4	1.		ugh activities with little or accuracy or quality		room activities during clas does not perform the activ not use the time provided, another activity before cor	ity or does will go on to				
4	2.		racted by other activities com, other children, the	4 15.	first, etc.) Fails to perform activities i	independent-				
2	3.	Does not list are saying	en to what other children	_	ly (e.g., continually asks for reassurance; does not bon, or complete activities visitance; etc.)	egin, work				
3	4.		ar all of what is said (e.g., endings, misses key words not," etc.)	4 16.	Does not remain on task (einterested in other activitie does nothing, etc.)					
4	5.	maintain att in the immed	ect attention or fails to ention to important sounds diate environment (e.g., ctions, public address	1er	Does not listen to or follow directions Forgus (i.e., forgets things					
		system, etc.)		01 2 10.	heturn things, forgets to do	things, etc.)				
4	6.		iful in activities requiring g., games, following orail tc.)	19.	Has a short attention span not sit still while a story is does not keep his/her atte signed activities, is easily of	being read, ntion on as-				
2	7.	Needs oral q	uestions and directions epeated	<i>3</i> 20.	etc.)					
3	8.		e successfully when close e of sound (e.g., when	<u>3</u> 20.	Starts but does not comple (e.g., coloring, helping with ing with blocks, listening t	h chores, build-				
4	9		to the teacher) e contact in order to listen	<i>3</i> 21.	Does not prepare for daily (e.g., getting ready for lun					
ت	,.		(e.g., one-to-one situation)		to go outside, etc.)					
2	10.	ory skills (e. two- or three	onstrate short-term mem- g., does not remember e-step directions, does not naterials needed for a task,	[<i>3</i>] 22.	Does not organize respons (e.g., neglects to complete things, is not ready for sch tivities on time, does not reetc.)	tasks, loses eduled ac-				
2	11.		ember sequences (e.g., laily routine: dressing, th, etc.)	<u>3</u> 23.	Fails to follow necessary st things (e.g., performing ch ready for lunch, preparing etc.)	ores, getting				
4	12.		y concentrating (e.g., stay- in an activity, following a n, etc.)	<i>3</i> 24.	Changes from one activity without finishing the first, ting things away, before it move on, etc.	without put-				

74

_ Raw Score

2 13. Is disorganized to the point of not having necessary materials, losing materi-

als, failing to find materials, etc.

SUBSCALE 2

- 2 11. Engages in physically dangerous activities (e.g., climbs on things, runs in hallways, etc.)
- 3 12. Begins activities before receiving directions or instructions, or does not follow directions or instructions
- 13. Does not wait his/her turn in activities or games
- 2 14. Grabs things away from others
- 2 15. Blurts out answers without being called on
- 2 16. Interrupts the teacher (e.g., begins talking while the teacher is talking, goes up to the teacher while the teacher is working with other children, etc.)
- 3 17. Interrupts other children (e.g., talks while they are talking, makes noises, laughs, etc.)
- 18. Talks to others during quiet activity periods
- 19. Moves about while seated, fidgets, squirms, etc.
- 20. Appears restless (e.g., shifts position in seat, paces about, etc.)
- 3 21. Bothers other children who are trying to work, listen, play, etc.
- 2 22. Makes unnecessary comments in the classroom (e.g., talks to other children without permission, interrupts, blurts out answers, etc.)
- 23. Reacts immediately to situations without thinking, is impatient, fails to wait for a turn or for assistance from a teacher, etc.
- 2 24. Fails to comply with teachers or other personnel (e.g., refuses to do what he/she is told, goes on doing what he/she was doing, does the opposite of what he/she is told, etc.)
- 25. Does not consider the consequences of his/her behavior (e.g., knows that his/her behavior will result in a negative consequence but engages in the behavior anyway, engages in physically dangerous activities without regard to being injured, etc.)
- 26. Intrudes on others (e.g., during private times; when people are talking, trying to work, or involved in activities; etc.)

- 27. Has accidents which are the result of impulsive or careless behavior
- 28. Fails to follow a routine (e.g., does things out of order, does not wait for an activity at the scheduled time, etc.)
- 2 29. Does not follow the rules of games
- **4** 30. Leaves seat or assigned area without permission
- 31. Does not work in a group situation (e.g., does not stay involved in an activity and work productively at a table with peers, with peers nearby, etc.)
- 2 32. Hops, skips, and jumps when moving from one place to another instead of walking
- 33. Handles objects (e.g., twirls pencils, plays with things in work area, spins scissors on pencils, etc.)
- **2** 34. Talks beyond what is expected or at inappropriate times
- 2 35. Does not wait appropriately for assistance from an instructor
- 36. Engages in inappropriate behaviors while seated (e.g., tips chair or desk, puts feet on desk, touches others as they walk by, taps and makes noises, etc.)
- 2 37. Becomes overexcited (e.g., loses control in group activities, blurts out answers, forgets rules, becomes loud, etc.)
- 38. Demonstrates inappropriate behavior when moving with a group (e.g., fails to stay in line, runs, pushes, etc.)
- 39. Moves about unnecessarily (e.g., leaves seat, walks around the classroom, rocks, shakes head, etc.)
- 3 40. Climbs on things
- 3 41. Makes excessive noise (talking, burping, humming, tapping, etc.)
- 3 42. Does not play or work quietly
- ___97 Raw Score

SCHOOL VERSION RATING FORM

Stephen B. McCarney

PROFILE SHEET

Name of student: Thomas	7. Brinton		Gend	er: <u> </u>
School:	dvale Element	ary	Grac	de: <u>PX</u>
City: <i>Midvale</i>			Stat	te: <i>PA</i>
Date of rating:	95	5		11
3	(year)	(mont	h)	(day)
Date of birth:	91	10		27
	(year)	(mont	h)	(day)
Age at rating:	3	6		14
	(years)	(month	ıs)	(days)

SUMMARY OF SCORES									
Subscales	Raw Score	Standard Score (Appendix A)	Raw Score SEM (Table 7)						
1. Inattentive	74	8	3.50						
2. Hyperactive- Impulsive	91	4	4.13						

TOTAL	SCORE
Sum of Subscale SS	Percentile (Appendix B)
12	13%

Dates during which observation of student occurred: From 9/94 To 5/95

Rated by (observer's name): <u>Leiah Shockeu</u>

How well the student is known by the rater (indicate type of interactions):

half day preschool teacher

Amount of time spent with student:

Per day 3 hours Per week 15 hours

Standard	1	Subscales 2		Percentile
Scores	Inattentive	Hyperactive-Impulsive	Percentiles	Rank
20	•	•	≥99	•
19	•	•	_ 95	•
18	•	•	90	•
17	•	•	85	•
16	•	•	80	•
15	•	•	75	•
14	•	•	70	•
13	•	•	65	•
12	•	•	60	•
11	•	•	55	•
10	→	→	50	•
9	•	•	45	•
8	X	•	40	•
7	•	•	35	•
6	•	•	30	•
5	•	•	25	•
4	•	7	20	•
3	•	•	15	å
2	•	•	10	*
1	•	•	5	•
			<u>≤</u> 1	•

Important: Before using this scale, read the section titled Rating Guidelines on page one.

ECADDES SV

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HOME VERSION RATING FORM

Stephen B. McCarney

COVER SHEET

RATING GUIDELINES

- The child should be rated by persons with primary observational opportunities who interact directly with the child in the home environment.
- Any number of persons may rate the child. Each person should independently rate (i.e., without conferring with others) the child using a separate rating form.
- It is not necessary to complete the rating of a child in one day. Several days may elapse before the rater is able to complete the scale.
- It is recommended that the rater read each quantifier with the item before rating the item. Using item 25 as an example, the rater would first read, "Does not grab things away from others," then "One to several times per month grabs things away from others," then "One to several times per week grabs things away from others," then "One to several times per day grabs things away from others," and finally "One to several times per hour grabs things away from others."
- If the rater has not personally observed the child demonstrate the behavior, the rating should be

0

DOES NOT ENGAGE IN THE BEHAVIOR.

 If the rater has observed the child for more than one month and the child has demonstrated the behavior one to several times (i.e., one to three times), the rating should be

1

ONE TO SEVERAL TIMES PER MONTH.

 If the behavior has been demonstrated one or more times per week, even several times per week (i.e., one to four times), the rating should be

2

ONE TO SEVERAL TIMES PER WEEK.

 If the behavior has been demonstrated at least once a day or more than one time a day (i.e., one to four times), the rating should be

3

ONE TO SEVERAL TIMES PER DAY.

 If the behavior has been demonstrated at least once an hour and included behaviors with unlimited frequency which may even defy accurate counting at extremely high rates, the rating should be

4

ONE TO SEVERAL TIMES PER HOUR.

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TO RATER: Rate every item using the quantifiers (0-4) provided. Every item must be rated. **Do not leave any boxes blank.**

DOES NOT	ONE TO	ONE TO	ONE TO	ONE TO
ENGAGE	SEVERAL	SEVERAL	SEVERAL	SEVERAL
IN THE	TIMES PER	TIMES PER	TIMES PER	TIMES PER
BEHAVIOR	MONTH	WEEK	DAY	HOUR
0	1	2	3	4

SUBSCALE 1

- 1. Is easily distracted by other things happening in the home (e.g., other children, TV, radio, etc.)
- 2. Does not listen to what others are saying
- 2 3. Does not direct attention or fails to maintain attention to important sounds in the immediate environment (e.g., conversations, instructions, etc.)
- 4. Is unsuccessful in activities requiring listening (e.g., games, following oral directions, etc.)
- 5. Needs oral questions and directions frequently repeated (e.g., says, "I don't understand"; needs constant reminders; etc.)
- 6. Has difficulty concentrating (e.g., maintaining interest in an activity, following a conversation, etc.)
- 7. Is disorganized with possessions (e.g., loses or does not find toys, clothes, etc.)
- 8. Does not remain on-task (e.g., is more interested in other activities, sits and does nothing, etc.)
- 9. Does not listen to or follow verbal directions
- 2 10. Forgets (i.e., forgets things, forgets to return things, forgets to do things, etc.)
- 3 11. Changes from one activity to another without finishing the first, without putting things away, before it is time to move on to the next activity, etc.

- 4 12. Has a short attention span (e.g., does not sit still while a story is being read, is easily distracted, etc.)
- 2 13. Starts but does not complete activities (e.g., coloring, helping with chores, building with blocks, listening to stories, etc.)
- 2 14. Does not independently perform chores or responsibilities (e.g., has to be reminded, does not begin or complete responsibilities without assistance, etc.)
- Does not organize responsibilities (e.g., neclects to perform chores, loses things, is not ready to do things on time, is late for school, does not return things, etc.)
- 2 16. Does not prepare for daily routines (e.g., getting ready to leave house for school/daycare, following bedtime routine, etc.)
- 3 17. Rushes through chores or tasks with little or no regard to quality of work (i.e., careless)
- 2 18. Does not hear all of what is said (e.g., misses word endings, misses key words such as "do not," etc.)
- 3 19. Attends more successfully when close to the source of the sound (e.g., when sitting close to the person speaking)
- 20. Requires eye contact in order to listen successfully (e.g., one-to-one situation)
- 21. Fails to follow directions from parents or other home authority figures (e.g., refuses to do what he/she is told, goes on doing what he/she was doing, does the opposite of what he/she is told, etc.)

- 2 10. Fails to follow necessary steps in doing things (e.g., performing chores, getting ready for bed, preparing to leave the house in the morning, etc.)
- 61 Raw Score

SUBSCALE 2

- 3 11. Engages in physically dangerous activities (e.g., climbs on things, runs in the house, etc.)
- 2 12. Does not wait his/her turn in activities or games
- 2 13. Grabs things away from others
- 3 14. Blurts out an answer before a question has been completed
- 2 15. Interrupts others (e.g., begins talking while others are talking, pulls on parents while they are talking to others, etc.)
- 16. Reacts immediately to situations without thinking, is impatient, fails to written for a turn or for assistance, etc.
- 2 17. Fails to follow a routine (e.g., doe, things out of order, does not wait for an activity at the scheduled time, etc.)
- 2 18. Begins things before receiving directions or instructions (e.g., putting things together, performing chores, using tools, etc.)
- 2 19. Intrudes on others (e.g., during private times; when people are talking, trying to work, or involved in activities; etc.)
- 20. Bothers others while they are trying to work, play, etc.
- 2 21. Does not consider the consequences of his/her behavior (e.g., knows that his/her behavior will result in a negative consequence but engages in the behavior anyway, engages in physically dangerous activities without regard to being injured, etc.)
- **2** 22. Has accidents which are the result of impulsive behavior

- 23. Appears restless (e.g., shifts positions, paces about, etc.)
- 24. Moves about while seated, fidgets, squirms, etc. (e.g., does not sit still while a story is being read, while watching TV, etc.)
- **2** 25. Does not follow the rules of games
- 4 26. Does not remain seated
 - 27. Becomes overexcited (e.g., loses control in group activities, becomes loud, etc.)
- 2 28. Climbs on things
- 29. Moves about unnecessarily (e.g., walks around, rocks, shakes head, fidgets with hands or feet, squirms in seat, etc.)
- 2 30. Runs in the house, does not sit appropriately on the furniture, yells, etc.
- Runs in the shopping mall, pushes and makes noises in line at the movies, yells in stores, etc.
- 32. Makes excessive noise (e.g., talking, humming, tapping, burping, etc.)
- 2 33. Behaves inappropriately when riding in the car (e.g., refuses to wear a seat belt, throws things out the window, fights with others, etc.)
- 2 34. Talks to peers, talks to parent or other adults, etc., at times when it is inappropriate
- 35. Does not play quietly
- 36. Hops, skips, and jumps when moving from one place to another instead of walking
- 2 37. Does not wait appropriately for assistance from an adult
- 38. Engages in inappropriate behaviors while seated (e.g., tips chair, puts feet on walls/furniture)
- 72 Raw Score

HOME VERSION RATING FORM

Stephen B. McCarney

PROFILE SHEET

Name of Thomas 7. Brinton Gender: Grade: PX Midvale Elementary School: _ City: _ Midvale State: PA Date of rating: (month) (year) (day) 91 10 Date of birth: (month) (year) (day)

SUMMARY OF SCORES								
Subscales	Raw Score	Standard Score (Appendix A)	Raw Score SEM (Table 7)					
1. Inattentive	61	5	3.86					
2. Hyperactive- Impulsive	72	6	4.25					

TOTAL	SCORE
Sum of Subscale SS	Percentile (Appendix B)
11	10%

Rated by: <u>Erica Brinton</u>

Relationship to the child: <u>Mother</u>

(months)

(years)

Please indicate what you consider to be the <u>primary</u> problems the child demonstrates in and around the home in following directions, obeying rules, etc. <u>Always noisy, can't be guite or sit still</u>

(days)

		Subscales		
Standard	1	2		Percentile
Scores	Inattentive	Hyperactive-Impulsive	Percentiles	Rank
20	•	•	≥99	•
19	•	•	95	•
18	•	•	90	•
17	•	•	85	•
16	•	•	80	•
15	•	•	75	•
14	•	•	70	•
13	•	•	65	•
12	•	•	60	•
11	•	•	55	•
10	→	→	50	→
9	•	•	45	•
8	•	•	40	•
7	•	•	35	•
6	•	2	30	•
5	A	•	25	•
4	•	•	20	•
3	•	•	15	•
2	•	•	10	A
1	•	•	5	•
			<u><</u> 1	•

Important: Before using this scale, read the section titled Rating Guidelines on page one.

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Age at rating:

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Using the Home and School Versions of the Early Childhood Attention Deficit Disorders Evaluation Scale-Revised Verification of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Characteristics According to the $DSM-IV^{\mathrm{TM}}$ Criteria

]	
	School	7 10 11 18	
	Home	s 10 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17	
h	School	2	
4	Home	1 6 8 8 10 11 12 13 19 20 20	
50	School	13 22	
	Home	7 15	
	School	6 8 6 9 11 12 12 12 13 14 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	
	Home	6 8 9 9 11 11 11 11 12 13 12 13 12 13 13 14 14 15 16 16 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	
e	School	13 22	4 1
	Home	r=ss	51
q	School	0 0 8 6 0 11 21 21 4 5 7 7 8 8 6 7 4 8 4 7 4 8 7 7 8 8 7 7 8 7 7 8 7 7 7 8 7 7 7 8 7 7 7 8 7 7 7 7 8 7	Z.
	Home	E 4 0 8 0 0 11 E 4 5 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	
၁	School	8 4 5 9 8 8 6 7 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
	Home	2 8 4 4 9 6 6 6 6 7 13 8 13 5 12 6 7 12 7 13 6 7 13	
	School	2 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0	
q	Home	1 2 8 8 8 9 8 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	
	School	1	
8	Home	1	
CRITERION A1	VERSION	ITEMS FROM HOME & SCHOOL VERSIONS	

	i	School	27	28	29	30	31	32	35	36	40	43	48	53	
		Home	24	25	56	27	31	32	37	4	46				
	h	School	26	27	28	29	30	31	37	40	42	43	48	49	
		Home	24	25	56	27	28	29	31	37	49				
	3.0	School	27	29	30	31	37								
	- Ga	Home	24	76	27	28									
	f	School	29	30	31	32	35	36	40	48	55	99			
		Home	26	27	31	32	39	4	46	47					
	e	School	25	76	27	33	34	36	42	4	46	53			
71		Home	23	24	29	30	35	36	38	40	41	42	43	45	48
	р	School	32	36	45	51	22	99							
		Home	39	42	4	47									
	c	School	25	46	52	54									
		Home	23	34	40	42	43	48							
	q	School	34	4	53										
		Home	35	38	41	45									
	а	School	33	34	47	20	53	25							
		Home	35	36	41	4	20								
	CRITERION A2	VERSION	ITEMS FROM	HOME & SCHOOL	VERSIONS										

III. Goals, Objectives, and Interventions

1 Rushes through activities with little or no regard to accuracy or quality

Goals:

- 1. The child will improve the accuracy of activity work.
- 2. The child will improve the quality of activity work.

Objectives:

- 1. The child will perform activities with ______% accuracy.
- 2. The child will check outcome of the activity with teacher prior to moving to next activity.
- 3. The child will redo an activity if deemed necessary after meeting with the teacher.

Interventions:

- **1.** Supervise the child while he/she is performing activities to monitor accuracy and quality.
- **2.** Provide the child with clearly stated criteria for acceptable work.
- 3. Reinforce the child for improving the ac-curacy and quality of his/her vore based on ability. As the child demonstrates success, gradually increase the amount of improvement expected for reinforcement.
- **4.** Interact frequently with the cand to monitor task performance.
- **5.** Assess quality and clarity of directions, explanations, and instructions given to the child.
- **6.** Make certain that all educators who work with the child maintain consistent expectations of accuracy and quality.
- **7.** Have the child question any directions, explanations, and instructions not understood.
- **8.** Assess the child's performance in a variety of ways (e.g., have the child give verbal explanations, simulations, physical demonstrations, etc.).
- **9.** Structure the environment to provide the child with increased opportunities for help or assistance on activities.

- **10.** Recognize accuracy and quality (e.g., display the child's work, congratulate the child, etc.).
- 11. Communicate with parents (e.g., notes in the phone calls, etc.) to share information concerning the child's progress. The parents may reinforce the child at home for improving the quality of wak at school.
- Deliver reinforcement for any and all measures of improvement.
- **13.** Mastery should not be expected too soon after introducing new information, skills, etc.
- **14.** Build varying degrees of difficulty into activities to ensure the child's self-confidence and at the same time provide a challenge (e.g., easier problems are intermingled with problems designed to measure knowledge gained).
- **15.** Teach the child direction-following skills: (a) listen carefully, (b) ask questions, (c) use environmental cues, (d) rely on examples provided, etc.
- **16.** Provide the child with additional time to perform activities to achieve increased accuracy and quality.
- 17. Provide the child with evaluative feedback for activities completed (i.e., identify what the child did successfully, what errors were made, and what should be done to correct the errors).

II. Interventions

1 Is easily distracted by other things happening in the home

- 1. Is the child capable of task or behavior? Be sure that the behavior or task is within the child's capability level, and respect the outcome in terms of the child's age.
- 2. In clear, simple language, and actions establish rules for performing everyday tasks (e.g., putting toys away, clearing dishes, etc.). The rules should be consistent and reinforced by all household members. Frequent reminders help to reinforce expectations.
- **3.** To help your child remember what is expected, establish a daily routine for your child to follow when getting up in the morning, performing chores, or getting ready for bed.
- 4. Accentuate everything that your child does remember to do in a variety of ways. Do this by using verbal praise (e.g., You put all the toys in the basket. The com looks given, and you'll be alto of had your toy when you want them!"), a hag, a kiss on the cheek, offering to read a story, going for a walk or the ride, or joining the child in finishing the task.
- **5.** If there are other children in the household who get things done without being distracted, reward them for this behavior.
- **6.** Children need to see adults get their work done without being distracted. Set an example by getting your daily tasks accomplished in an orderly and efficient manner. Young children love to help adults. Discuss your strategies for sticking to the task at hand while your child helps you.
- 7. Young children need to see the relationship between behavior and logical consequences (e.g., if the plants don't get watered, they wither). Very young children will need numerous examples of this before they develop their own understanding of logical consequences.

8. When your child does not get something done because he/she was distracted, clearly and simply explain to the child what he/she did wrong, what should have been done, and why.

For example: Your child is supposed to put her small toys away when she is done playing with them. She did not do this, and the shoes to her doll have been sucked up into the vacuum cleaner. Now she will not have shoes for the doll.

9. Make a chart for your child to keep track of responsibilities.

For example. Draw pictures or cut them out of may a tines, then write caption for each task you want the child to accomplish (e.g., pick up toys, out Jothes in the hamper, or feed the dog).

Leave spaces for the number of days the child is expected to accomplish the task. Keep a supply of stickers handy, and place a sticker in the appropriate space for every task accomplished without distraction. In some instances it may be best to focus on one task at a time. Discuss a reward that could be received as a result of accomplishing the task for the desired number of days (e.g., watching 30 extra minutes of TV, going on a picnic, inviting a friend over to play).

- **10.** Allow natural consequences to be the teacher if your child fails to accomplish a task due to distraction (e.g., toys not put away become lost, plants not watered wither and die, etc.).
- 11. Parent from a positive perspective. Let the child know what the next step after the task will be (e.g., "After your bath, we can read a book.").
- 12. Young children need frequent reminders. These need to be in verbal, picture, and written form. Make a list with words and pictures (perhaps get copies made so your child can have a fresh one each day). Your child will feel a sense of accomplishment when he/she can mark off jobs on the list as they are done.