

Child Social-Communication Interaction Checklist

This checklist includes practices that can be used to encourage and promote nonverbal or verbal child communication behavior by responding contingently (positively) to the child’s behavior. The checklist includes a number of behaviors, activities, etc., that can be used to be responsive to a child’s attempts to communicate with others and to engage a child in interactive episodes that focus on enhancing child communicative competence. The adult behavior can be used as part of all types of everyday activities and as part of adult-child play.

The checklist indicators can be used by a practitioner to develop a plan to use the practices with a child or to promote a parent’s use of the practices. The checklist rating scale can be used to do a self-evaluation to determine if the different practice characteristics were used by a practitioner with a child or as part of promoting a family member’s use of the practices.

Practitioner: _____ Child: _____ Date: _____

Please indicate which practice characteristics you were able to use as part of interactions with a child:	Seldom or never (0 - 25%)	Some of the time (25 - 50%)	As often as I can (50 - 75%)	Most of the time (75 - 100%)	Notes
1. Observe the child’s attempts to communicate or interact with you during everyday activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Identify the social-communication behavior the child uses or attempts to use to initiate adult-child interactions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Follow the child’s lead and interpret the child’s behavior (e.g., visual attention, smiling, gestures) as an attempt to communicate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. Respond promptly and positively (contingently) to the child’s social-communication behavior to sustain the child’s interactions with you	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Join in the child’s social-communication interactive play by imitating the child’s nonverbal and verbal behavior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. Respond positively to the child’s social-communicative interactive behavior to encourage child requests, preferences, or interests	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Vary your responses to the child’s communicative behavior through modeling, feedback, and other prompting strategies to encourage child expansions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

This checklist is based upon the following *DEC Recommended Practices*: Interaction 1, 2, 3, 4
 The DEC Recommended Practices are available at <http://dec-sped.org/recommendedpractices>
 Access this checklist and other products at <http://ectacenter.org/decrp>
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