

Potential Treatment Goals & Learning Objectives



- Eye gaze, reach, smiles
- Socially referencing others
- Increased attention to others
- Sharing interest with others
- Gives objects to others
- Shows objects to others
- Regulating affect
- Regulating sensory needs (more aware of self, tolerates sensory input, transitions)
- Respond to joint attention
- Initiates joint attention
- Increasing the variety of toy play and/or deep interests
- Explores new toys
- Initiates play with toys
- Amount of time spent playing with objects and others
- Flexibility during play
- Transitions during play themes and routines
- Initiation skills (across different functions)
- Imitation - for anything and everything; to learn new skills as well as for social functions and to engage with others
- Responding to others
- Visually referencing others
- Shifting gaze between people and objects
- Respond to name being called
- Increasing intentional communicative acts (across different functional uses of language)
- Early expressive language development (gestures, vocalizations, word approximations, single words, gesture-word combinations, and word combinations)

Social Attention + Social Motivation



Social Communication Assessment Measures

Early Social Communication Scales (ESCS, Peter Mundy and colleagues in 1996)

Communication Symbolic Behavior Scales (CSBS, Amy Wetherby and Barry Prizant, 2002)

Social Communication Assessment for Toddlers with Autism (SCATA, Drew and colleagues 2007)

Social-Communication Assessment Tool (S-CAT, Murdock and colleagues, 2007)



Here are five things to continuously monitor during every single interaction.

1

Find out what captures the child's attention... Stay in the spotlight.

2

Watch for things that distract the child; that compete with the spotlight (child's attention)

3

Find out what motivates the child. Follow their lead.

4

Find the child's comfort level. Try not to be 'too close' or 'too far' away.

5

Watch for signs of dysregulation This can impact their ability to stay engaged with you (motivation).

Strategies to Increase Social Attention & Social Motivation



Have fun!



Keep the positive
affect going!



Use shared
control strategies



Imitate the
child's actions.