

Motivation Assessment Scale

Name:	Date:
Rater:	
Behavioral description:	
Setting description:	
Frequency description (check one): more than once per <input type="checkbox"/> Year <input type="checkbox"/> Month <input type="checkbox"/> Week <input type="checkbox"/> Day <input type="checkbox"/> Hour	

Instructions

To complete the Motivation Assessment Scale, identify a behavior that is of particular importance. It is essential to be precise when selecting the behavior to understand motivations accurately. Once you have specified the behavior to be rated, read each question carefully and circle one number that best describes your observation of this behavior.

ITEMS	RESPONSES						
	Never	Almost	Seldom	Half the time	Usually	Almost Always	Always
1. Would the behavior occur continuously, over and over, if this person was left alone for long periods of time? (For example, several hours.)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
2. Does the behavior occurs following a request to perform to him or her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
3. Does this behavior occur when others are attending to him or her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
4. Does the behavior occur in response to your talking to other persons in the room?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
5. Does the behavior ever occur to get a toy, food, or activity that this person has been told that he or she cannot have.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
6. Would the behavior occur repeatedly, in the same way, for very long periods of time, if no one was around? (For example, rocking back and forth for over an hour.)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

ITEMS	RESPONSES						
	Never	Almost	Seldom	Half the time	Usually	Almost Always	Always
7. Does the behavior occur when any request is made of this person?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
8. Does the behavior occur when there are many people around?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
9. Does the behavior occur whenever you stop paying attention to this person?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
10. Does the behavior occur when you take away a favorite toy, food, or activity?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
11. Does it appear to you that this person enjoys performing the behavior? (It feels, tastes, smells, and/or sounds pleasing?)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
12. Does this person seem to do the behavior to upset or annoy you when you are trying to get him or her to do what you ask?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
13. Does the behavior stop occurring when he or she is alone?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
14. Does this person seem to do his behavior to upset or annoy you when you are not paying attention to him or her? (For example, if you are sitting in a separate room, interacting with another person?)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
15. Does the behavior stop occurring shortly after you give this person the toy, food, or activity, he or she has requested?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
16. When the behavior is occurring, does this person seem calm and unaware of anything else going on around him or her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

ITEMS	RESPONSES						
	Never	Almost	Seldom	Half the time	Usually	Almost Always	Always
17. Does this person seem to do the behavior to get people to stop paying attention to him or her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
18. Does the behavior seem to occur when this person has been told that he or she cannot do something he or she had wanted to do?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
19. Does this person ignore others when engaging in this behavior?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
20. Does the behavior stop occurring shortly after (one to five minutes) you stop working or making demands of this person?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
21. Do others try and prevent this behavior by not attending to him/her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
22. Does this person always have access to a particular food, item, or activity in an effort to avoid this behavior?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
23. Does this person always have access to a particular food, item, or activity in an effort to avoid this behavior?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
24. Does it seem that this behavior occurs most often during "down time", when there is not much activity going on in the classroom/work setting?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
25. Is this person not asked to do certain tasks because of this behavior?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
26. Do others try and "prevent" this behavior by talking to or paying attention to him/her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

ITEMS	RESPONSES						
	Never	Almost	Seldom	Half the time	Usually	Almost Always	Always
27. Does this behavior occur when he or she seems bored?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
28. Does the behavior allow the person to "get out of" doing what you ask of him/her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
29. Does this person spend much time alone, in an effort by others to stop this behavior?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
30. Does this person always seem to have one--on--one attention from others in an effort to prevent this behavior?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
31. Do others use items like a toy, food, or an activity to convince him or her to do certain things?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
32. Does this behavior stop when he or she is performing an activity and then start again as soon as the activity is completed?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
33. Does the behavior rarely occur when he or she is sitting by him or herself?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
34. Would this behavior occur if he or she is sitting by him or herself?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
35. Does engaging in this behavior seem to make him or her happy, content, or less frustrated?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
36. Does the behavior stop if you let him/ her take a break from whatever is going on?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
37. Does the behavior seem to occur most often when others try to interact with him/her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

ITEMS	RESPONSES						
	Never	Almost	Seldom	Half the time	Usually	Almost Always	Always
38. Does the presence of other people make this behavior less likely to occur?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
39. Would giving him a favorite object, food or other item stop the behavior?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
40. Do others have to ask him or her to stop this behavior before they can ask him or her to do anything else?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
41. Are requests not make of this person for fear they will engage in the behavior?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
42. Does this person seem to enjoy his or her time alone?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
43. Does this behavior occur when everyone seems to be busy and not able to attend to him or her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
44. Do others try and "prevent" this behavior by giving him or her something to do, eat, or play with?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
45. Would the behavior occur continuously, over and over, if this person in an unstructured setting (i.e., no demands, little attention) for long periods of time? (For example, several hours)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
46. Does it seem that this behavior occurs most often during group activities?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
47. Would the behavior occur repeatedly, in the same way, for very long periods of time? (For example, rocking back and forth for over an hour?)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

ITEMS	RESPONSES						
	Never	Almost	Seldom	Half the time	Usually	Almost Always	Always
48. Do others try and “prevent” this behavior by limiting expectations of him/her?)	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
49. Does the person seem to do the behavior to upset or annoy you when you are interaction with him or her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
50. Does this person seem to like having other people around him or her?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
51. Does saying “no” to a request start to make him or her upset?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
52. Does this behavior occur when he or she is expected to work independently?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
53. Does it seem this behavior mostly occur during instructional periods?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
54. Does the behavior stop occurring shortly after (one to five minutes) you leave him or her alone?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
55. Does the behavior stop when you pay attention to this person?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
56. Does the behavior occur when you indicate that it is time to move to a new activity?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
57. Does this person seem “driven” to complete the behavior?	0	1	2	3	4	5	6

Scoring on the next page

Scoring

Sensory	Escape Demands	Escape Attention	Attention	Tangible
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
16.	20.	17.	22.	18.
19.	25.	21.	26.	23.
24.	28.	29.	30.	31.
27.	36.	33.	38.	34.
32.	41.	37.	43.	39.
35.	48.	42.	50.	44.
40.	53.	46.	55.	51.
45.		49.		56.
47.		54.		
52.				
57.				

Total:

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Mean

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Rank

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V. Mark Durand 1997