

# The Listening Checklist

**We cannot see listening, the only way to get at it is indirectly through skills that are related to it in one way or another.**

The listening checklist enables you to evaluate yourself or child's listening skills.

There is no score, simply check as many boxes as you feel appropriate.

## **Developmental History**

This knowledge is extremely important in early identification and prevention of listening problems. It also sheds light on the possible causes..

- a stressful pregnancy.
- difficult birth.
- adoption.
- early separation from the mother.
- delay in motor development.
- recurring ear infections

## **Receptive Listening**

This is the listening that is directed outward. It keeps us attuned to the world around us, to what's going on at home, at work or in the classroom..

- short attention span.
- distractibility.
- over sensitivity to sounds.
- misinterpretation of questions.
- confusion of similar sounding words.
- frequent need of repetition.
- inability to follow sequential instructions

## **Motor Skills**

The ear of the body, which controls balance, co-ordination and body image, also needs close attention..

- poor posture.
- fidgety behaviour.
- clumsy, uncoordinated movement.
- poor sense of rhythm.
- messy handwriting.
- hard time with organization, structure

### **The Level of Energy**

The ear acts as a dynamo, providing us with the energy we need to survive and lead fulfilling lives..

- difficulty getting up.
- tiredness at the end of the day.
- habit of procrastinating.
- hyperactivity.
- tendency toward depression.
- feeling overburdened with everyday tasks

### **Expressive Listening**

This is listening that is directed within. We use it to control our voice when we speak and sing..

- flat and monotonous voice.
- hesitant speech. weak vocabulary.
- poor sentence structure.
- overuse of stereotyped expressions.
- inability to sing in tune.
- confusion or reversal of letters.
- poor reading comprehension.
- poor reading aloud.
- poor spelling

### **Behavioural and Social Adjustment**

A listening difficulty is often related to these:.

- low tolerance or frustration.
- poor self-confidence.
- poor self-image.
- shyness.
- difficulty making friends

This list is based on "When Listening Comes Alive" from Paul Madaule (Moulin Publishing 1994).

### **Contact Us for more information**

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