Occupational Therapy Screening Tool (“Red Flags”)

**Children-All Ages**

* Avoids touching or being touched (especially if unexpected), dislikes getting dirty, seems unaware of pain, and/or displays upset with daily routine tasks such as dressing, bathing, washing hair, cutting nails, etc.
* Seems clumsy or uncoordinated (taking longer than expected to learn motor skills, bumps into other people or objects in the environment, falls often, etc)
* Poor eye contact or difficulty interacting with adults or peers
* Covers ears, becomes upset, or complains about loud noises
* Difficulty following verbal directions or completing steps of daily routines
* Limited diet (does not eat certain food textures or temperatures, gags on food, etc)
* Avoid movement activities such as swings, slides, hesitates on curbs or uneven surfaces, etc
* Appears to be in constant motion, fidgety, difficult time sitting still
* Overly rough when playing
* Difficulty imitating actions
* Unsafe in community or at home
* Disruptive behaviors-impulsive, limited attention, resistive to new activities/changes in routine, difficulty moving from one activity to another, gives up easily, difficulty calming self

Occupational Therapy Screening Tool (“Red Flags”) – Age Specific

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| **0-1 year olds*** Not mouthing toys, difficulty transitioning to textured foods
* Difficulty eye tracking movement (decreased visual regard for toys and/or people)
* Does not appear interested in cause and effect toys
* Always content to lie/sit in one place
* Not imitating sounds, gestures, emotions, etc.
* Difficulty getting to sleep, easily awakened
* Takes a long time to respond even to familiar voices or startles easily
* Delayed head control (fully developed 4-5 mos.)
* Frequent irritability with difficulty calming
* Withdraws/fussy to with touch (examples: changing diaper or clothes, bath time, wiping face).
* Resists being held, becomes upset when moved, when placed on back for diaper changes, etc.
 | **1-2 year olds*** No interest in engaging with moving toys (balls, cars/trucks, pull toys)
* Not attempting to feed self with spoon
* Does not use trial and error (example: attempts something once and gives up)
* Does not appear to use gestures and words to communicate wants and needs (limited pointing, showing, offering)
* Limited exploration of environment (not climbing on/off chairs, going up/down steps, etc.)
* Refuses or unable to eat same meals as rest of family
* Unable to use utensils/will only eat with hands
* Unable to use straw cup or sippy cup
* No pretend or cooperative play observed (examples- hide and seek, chasing, brushing dolls hair, etc)

\* By 2 years should be able to engage in quiet play approximately 5-10 minutes |
| **2-3 year olds*** No enjoyment of rough and tumble play
* No interest or difficulty scribbling, completing 4-5 piece puzzles, building, etc.
* Not able to engage in parallel play (beside a peer), snatching toys from others typical at this age
* No observation of using toys as agents (doll feeding self, dump truck scooping sand)
* Not asking who, what, where, why questions
* Not able to locate parts of body (eyes, nose, etc.)

\*Should be able to engage in quiet play approximately 15 minutes | **3-4 year olds*** Not enjoying new toys, appears stuck on familiar or desired toys
* Limited interest in tools/activities such as hammering, using scissors and markers, sorting objects, etc.
* Unable to use one toy/object to represent something else
* No interest in peer play, unable to engage in cooperative play

\*Now able to play with single object or play theme approximately 10 minutes, quiet play approximately 30 minutes |