

Sensory Processing Disorders, Discipline and Punishment

A guide for Educators

Parker- Age 6

- Impulsive
- Loud
- Always up and moving
- Interrupts, speaks loudly
- Explosive anger, cries and screams a lot
- Looks like an unmade bed.

Keldon- age 6

- Lazy
- Stares off into space
- Doesn't follow directions
- Doesn't take interest in anything.
- Lays around all the time
- Appears tired all the time
- Can't be motivated to do anything
- Chubby, and slovenly

Emily- age 9

- Well Behaved
- Sweet
- Likes to help, but never finishes what she starts.
- Never completes a thought
- Never completes an assignment
- Parents have been told she has ADHD, Dyslexia, and a Learning Disorder
- Very clumsy, makes a mess of everything she touches.
- Peers complain about her being gross

Sophia- age 5

- Doesn't say a whole lot
- Moody,
- Won't sit still
- You can't really talk to her
- You don't know what she wants
- Appears to engage in attention seeking activities
- Labeled a behavior problem in school and is often set apart from other kids.

What's Wrong?

ADHD

Learning Disorder

Behavior

Discipline

Punishment

A hand on their butt

One Final Story

Brant- Age 4

Sensory Processing Disorders

Kids have a difficult time regulating
sensory input

A decorative border surrounds the central text. It consists of several rectangular blocks in shades of purple, grey, and blue, arranged in a grid-like pattern. The top-left corner has a purple block above a grey block. The top-right corner has a purple block above a white block. The left side features a tall grey vertical bar with a purple horizontal bar near the bottom. The right side has a tall purple vertical bar. The bottom edge has a blue horizontal bar.

How many senses do we have?

Two extra senses

- Proprioceptive- has to do with the joints and how they work
- Vestibular – impact our reaction to gravity, movement and balance

Proprioception:

- Defines the body's position in space
- Determines how we interact with the environment
- Determines how much force we use when performing activities.

Proprioception processing difficulties can cause:

- A love of crashing into others and things
- Risk taking behaviors
- Chewing on inappropriate objects
- Seeking deep pressure input
- Bull in a china shop
- Motor planning problems
- Poor Self esteem
- Over or under responsive to pain

Vestibular processing difficulties can cause:

- Excessive movement
- Restlessness and distractibility
- Risk Taking Activities
- Speech/language problems
- Poor posture and muscle tone
- On the move, constantly
- Excessive swinging and jumping.

So many others:

- Auditory
- Visual
- Olfactory
- Tactile
- Taste

So what do you do?

It's a miracle



What else can you do?

- Anticipate possible stressors/triggers
- Establish a plan
- Provide calming activities



Easy Right?

But wait, there's more....



In the Classroom

- Put thera-band on their chair
- Give them a wedge sit on
- Let them chew gum
- Put Velcro under the desk
- Let them jump around

And don't forget



So really, what do we do?

- Look at the child
- Make a plan
- Adjust the plan

Parker- Age 6

- Four main problems
 - Implulsive
 - Interrupts
 - Running into kids
 - Generally rough

Parker- Age 6

- A big heavy bag of beans
- Compression clothing
- Joint compressions
- Showers in the morning

Keldon- Age 6

- Four Problems
 - Lethargic
 - Uninterested
 - Doesn't follow directions
 - Unmotivated

Keldon- Age 6

- Movement
- Swinging
- Lifting heavy objects
- Pushing heavy objects

Emily - Age 9

- Movement
- She can sit where ever she wants to
 - On the floor
 - On a wedge
 - She can stand up
 - She can lay down

Stay within the box

Sophia - Age 5

- Carry heavy things
- Push heavy things
- Give her a closed area to go into
- Let her go and stay there when she needs
- Joint compressions

Follow up

- We constantly adjust these tactics with these kids
- They don't last forever
- They may not necessarily work everytime.
- No discipline structure works everytime
- The focus is on discipline, not punishment.

Questions?