



# Occupational Therapy Red Flags

## Possible Signs of Sensory Integration Dysfunction

Children usually display more than one of the following characteristics:

- 1 Overly sensitive to touch, movement, sights or sounds
- 2 Easily distracted/ poor attention
- 3 Activity level that is unusually high or low
- 4 Inability to "unwind" or calm self down (self-regulation)
- 5 Under-reactive to touch, movement or sounds
- 6 Social/ Emotional problems
- 7 Clumsy or uncoordinated
- 8 Picky eater
- 9 Oral sensitivity
- 10 Does not tolerate teeth being brushed
- 11 Oral motor (excessive drooling)
- 12 Low tone
- 13 Walks on toes

## Imitating/Copying Shapes

Children who have difficulty imitating/copying shapes may need occupational therapy. The following are age appropriate fine motor skills.

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| ✓ 2 years: draws a vertical & horizontal line | ✓ 4 years: draws a square    |
| ✓ 3 years: copies a circle                    | ✓ 5 years: copies a triangle |
| ✓ 4 years: draws a cross                      | ✓ 6 years: copies a diamond  |

## Fine Motor/Visual Perceptual Skills

- 1 Difficulty with puzzles
- 2 Children over the age of four who have not established a hand dominance
- 3 Trouble manipulating scissors (at 2-3 years of age, a child should be able to hold scissors and make snips)
- 4 Difficulty with their grasp on writing utensils. At 3 years of age a child should be utilizing a tripod grasp
- 5 Stringing beads is difficult-at 3 years of age a child should string medium size beads
- 6 Dressing skills are delayed-by age 3 a child should be attempting buttons