

# Is This Working?: Assessing Prelinguistic Skills of Autistic Children for Intervention Planning and Progress Monitoring

Boorom, O., Brady, N., & McDaniel, J.

## SUMMARY

Measuring progress in communication and language for autistic children who are not yet talking or just beginning to talk is often a challenge. To address this practical need, we present how to generate a hypothesis about a child's communication based on an initial evaluation focused on prelinguistic skills and then how to test that hypothesis through progress monitoring during intervention. We use case examples to apply presented concepts to evaluating gestures, social attention, vocalizations, and comprehension of autistic children. We provide guidance on selecting among different measures and tailoring measures to specific children. Attendees will have opportunities to practice with video examples and receive example data collection documents to readily implement the described techniques.

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## SOCIAL ATTENTION

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

START TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

STOP TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

ACTIVITY:

SETTING:

SUPPORTS:

COMMUNICATION PARTNER:

### Triadic Gaze



Independent	With Prompt
Total:	Total:



Notes:

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## VOCALIZATIONS

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

START TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

STOP TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

ACTIVITY:

SETTING:

SUPPORTS:

COMMUNICATION PARTNER:

### Proportions of Vocalizations with a Canonical Syllable

Canonical	Precanonical
Total:	Total:



Notes:

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## GESTURES

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

START TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

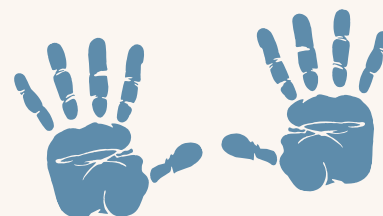
STOP TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

ACTIVITY:

SETTING:

SUPPORTS:

COMMUNICATION PARTNER:



### Communicative Gestures



Deictic	Conventional
A gesture that indicates an object, person, or location	A gesture that has socio-cultural meaning
Giving:	Waving:
Showing:	Clapping:
Reaching:	Shaking Head:
Pointing:	Shrugging:
Total:	Total:



Notes: