

Executive Function: From Theory to Assessment and Effective Classroom Instruction

Jack A. Naglieri, Ph.D.

Research Professor, University of Virginia
Senior Research Scientist, Devereux Center for Resilient Children
jnaglieri@gmail.com
www.jacknaglieri.com

 LEARNING & the BRAIN

1

Today's Session

- Introduce yourself to your neighbors
 - We will be discussing various topics today and you need to know who your talking to
 - Name (write it down so you remember)
 - Where they are from
 - What they do
 - Why they are here
 - Share a something about yourself relative to EF

 LEARNING & the BRAIN

2

Presentation Outline

- Comprehensive Model of EF
 - Historical Perspective
 - Definitions of Executive Function
- EF as Behavior
- EF as an Ability (an intelligence)
- EF as Social Emotional Skills
- Research about EF as ability, behavior, and SE
- **Think Smart!** -- EF Skills in the Classroom or Clinic
 - More lesson plans for improving components of EF
- Conclusions

 LEARNING & the BRAIN

3

Why this Workshop on EF?

- Executive Function (EF) is the most important ability we have, because it provides us a **way to decide how to do what we choose to do to achieve a goal**
- The best news is that **EF can be taught**
- Instruction that improves EF will affect children's ability to learn, their behavior, and their social skills.
- Improving EF will change a child's life

 LEARNING & the BRAIN

4

Executive Function Goals

- Today we will be *thinking about thinking*
- I will be teaching you *how* to help people learn to do the things they want to do
- The goal is to help students learn more by *encouraging them consider how they do what they decide to do*
- The goal is to engage the frontal lobes

 LEARNING & the BRAIN

5

EF Lesson on Saturday Night Live

- We will begin by learning about how EF can be taught to students, using one of the lessons in the project I'm working on
- The lessons teach aspects of EF and are structured as follows:
 - STEP 1 – View the video
 - STEP 2 – Discuss the video with the person sitting next to you.
 - STEP 3 – Share your ideas with everyone

 LEARNING & the BRAIN

6

EF Lesson on Saturday Night Live

- STEP 1 – View the video
- STEP 2 – Discussion of the video with someone sitting next to you.
- STEP 3 – Share your ideas with everyone

Time to Think and Talk

- **Task:**
- Talk with your partner(s)
- What was the main point ?
- Was the goal achieved ?
- Why was it so hard to get the students to think?
- Your own questions and thoughts..

START	120 seconds left
	100 seconds left
	80 seconds left
	60 seconds left
	40 seconds left
	20 seconds left
STOP	

History Class: Saturday Night Live

- STEP 1 – View the video
- STEP 2 – Discussion of the video with someone sitting next to you.
 - Consider:
 - What was the main point ?
 - Was the goal achieved ?
 - What did the teacher do wrong ?
 - Your own questions and thoughts..
- STEP 3 – Share your ideas with everyone

History Class: SNL

Metacognition
The ability to think about your thinking

Phrase of the week: Are you thinking about thinking?

Watch Seinfeld History Lesson Video:
<http://www.schooltube.com/video/30747e2e060f4e4ef5b/>

1. Why was the teacher frustrated in the video?
2. What could the students in the video have done differently?
3. Why was it so hard for the students to think about history?
4. Do you think about how you're doing your work *while* you are actually doing it?

Wrap-Up:

This week whenever you are stuck, you must describe to the teacher what you did. How you got to where you are?
This is an example of being aware of what you're thinking, sometimes called "self-monitoring". Write in your notebook how you think this could benefit you.

History Class: Student Comments

- 'The teacher was frustrated because the students weren't thinking about what he was saying'
- 'They should have paused before responding so that they could think'
- 'When you feel pressure you'll say anything if you don't know the answer'

History Class: Student Comments

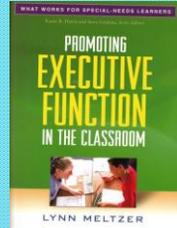
- 'The way teachers run the class stops you from thinking because they tell you there is only one way to do something – but it's a fact that there is more than one way to solve a problem'
- 'That's what I like about this class, there are different ways to solve the problems'
- 'We need to know why the teacher is getting us to learn history'

History Class: Saturday Night Live

- Teach students to think not just remember
- How to learn is just as important as what to learn
- This is what Executive Function is all about
- This is the theme of today's workshop

Meltzer (2010)

- 'Classroom instruction generally focuses on content (or the *what to know*), rather than on the *how to do or learn...* and does not address metacognitive strategies that teach students to think about *how* they think and learn'.

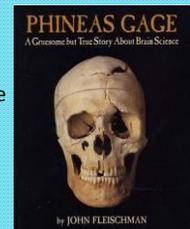


Presentation Outline

- Comprehensive Model of EF
 - Historical Perspective
 - Definitions of Executive Function
- EF as Behavior
- EF as an Ability (an intelligence)
- EF as Social Emotional Skills
- Research about EF as ability, behavior, and SE
- **Think Smart!** -- EF Skills in the Classroom or Clinic
 - More lesson plans for improving components of EF
- Conclusions

The Curious Story of Phineas Gage

John Fleischman's book "Phineas Gage: A Gruesome but True Story About Brain Science" is an excellent source of information about this person, his life, and how this event impacted our understanding of how the brain works; and particularly the frontal lobes.



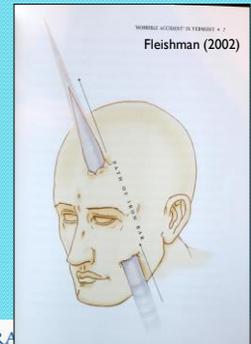
The Curious Story of Phineas Gage

- September 13, 1848 26 year old Phineas Gage was in charge of a railroad track construction crew blasting granite bedrock near Cavendish, Vermont
- The job Phineas has is to use a "tamping iron" to set explosives
- The tamping iron is a rod about 3 ½ feet long weighing 13 ½ lbs pointed at one end



Fleishman (2002, p 70)

- From Damasio (1994) article in *Science*
- The rod passed through the left frontal lobe, between the two hemispheres, then to left hemisphere
- The damage was to the front of the frontal cortex more than the back, and the underside more than the top



Before . . . & . . . After

- **Before** the accident 'he possessed a well-balanced mind, was seen as a shrewd, smart business man, very energetic and persistent in executing all his plans of operation' (p 59)
- **After** the accident his ability to direct others was gone, he had considerable trouble with decision making, control of impulses and interpersonal relationships – management of intellect, behavior and emotion

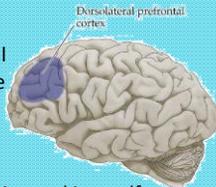
A Bit of EF Neuroanatomy

- The case of Phineas Gage led to a better understanding of the frontal lobes; in particular the pre-frontal cortex.
- Rich cortical, sub-cortical and brain stem connections.



More Specifically

- The dorsolateral prefrontal cortex is involved with the ability to plan, shift set, organize remember and solve novel problems.
- That is: planning and decision making, self monitoring, self correction, especially when responses are not well-rehearsed or contain novel sequences of actions.



The Curious Story of Phineas Gage

The Skull of Phineas Gage is at Harvard's Warren Anatomical Museum



The skull of Phineas Gage

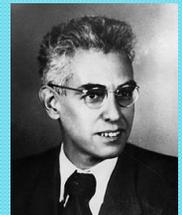
The skull of Phineas Gage, along with the tamping iron which did the damage. On display at Harvard's Warren Anatomical Museum.

Frontal Lobes and Executive Function(s)

What do we mean by the term Executive Function(s)?

Executive Function (s)

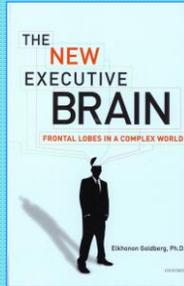
- In 1966 Luria first wrote and defined the concept of Executive Function (EF)
- He credited Bianchi (1895) and Bekhterev (1905) with the initial definition of the process



1902 - 1977

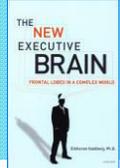
Executive Functions

- Elkhonon Goldberg provides a valuable review of what the frontal lobes do
- Describes EF as the orchestra leader



Goldberg (2009, p. 4)

- “The frontal lobes ... are linked to intentionality, purposefulness, and complex decision making.”
- They make us human, and as Luria stated, are “the organ of civilization”
- Frontal lobes are about ...”leadership, motivation, drive, vision, self-awareness, and awareness of others, success, creativity, sex differences, social maturity, cognitive development and learning...”



What is Executive Function(s)

There is no formal excepted definition of EF

- We typically find a vague general statement of EF (e.g., goal-directed action, cognitive control, top-down inhibition, effortful processing, etc.).
- Or a listing of the constructs such as
 - Inhibition,
 - Working Memory,
 - Planning,
 - Problem-Solving,
 - Goal-Directed Activity,
 - Strategy Development and Execution,
 - Emotional Self-Regulation,
 - Self-Motivation

Goldstein, Naglieri, Princiotta, & Otero (2013)

- Executive function(s) has come to be an umbrella term used for many different “abilities”: planning, working memory, attention, inhibition, self-monitoring, self-regulation and initiation carried out by pre-frontal areas of the frontal lobes.
- We found more than 30 definitions of EF(s)

What is Executive Function(s)

1. Barkley (2011): “EF is thus a **self-directed set of actions**” (p. 11).
2. Dawson & Guare (2010): “Executive skills allow us **to organize our behavior over time**” (p. 1).
3. Delis (2012): “Executive functions reflect the **ability to manage and regulate one’s behavior** (p. 14).

What is Executive Function(s)

4. Denckla (1996): “EF (is) a set of **domain-general control processes...**” (p. 263).
5. Gioia, Isquith, Guy, & Kenworthy (2000): “a **collection of processes that are responsible for guiding, directing, and managing cognitive, emotional, and behavioral functions**” (p. 1).

What is Executive Function(s)

6. Pribram (1973): "executive programmes ...to maintain brain organization " (p. 301).
7. Roberts & Pennington (1996): EF "a collection of related but somewhat distinct abilities such as planning, set maintenance, impulse control, working memory, and attentional control" (p. 105).

What is Executive Function(s)

6. Stuss & Benson (1986): "a variety of different capacities that enable purposeful, goal-directed behavior, including behavioral regulation, working memory, planning and organizational skills, and self-monitoring" (p. 272).
7. Welsh and Pennington (1988): "the ability to maintain an appropriate problem-solving set for attainment of a future goal" (p. 201).

What is Executive Function(s)

10. McCloskey (2006): "a diverse group of highly specific cognitive processes collected together to direct cognition, emotion, and motor activity, including ...the ability to engage in purposeful, organized, strategic, self-regulated, goal directed behavior" (p. 1)...

"think of executive functions as a set of independent but coordinated processes rather than a single trait" (p. 2).

What is Executive Function(s)

10. Lezak (1995): "a collection of interrelated cognitive and behavioral skills that are responsible for purposeful, goal-directed activity," ...
11. "how and whether a person goes about doing something" (p. 42).
12. Luria (1966): "... ability to correctly evaluate their own behavior and the adequacy of their actions" (p. 227).

Executive Function

- EF has is a **unitary** construct (Duncan & Miller, 2002; Duncan & Owen, 2000).
- EF is **unidimensional** in early childhood not adulthood.
- Both views are supported by some research (Miyake et al., 2000) EF is a **unitary construct ... but with partially different components.**

Executive Functions

- EF has **three components**: *inhibitory control, set shifting (flexibility), and working memory* (e.g., Davidson, et al., 2006).
- Executive Functions is a **multidimensional** model (Friedman et al., 2006) with independent **abilities** (Wiebe, Espy, & Charak, 2008).

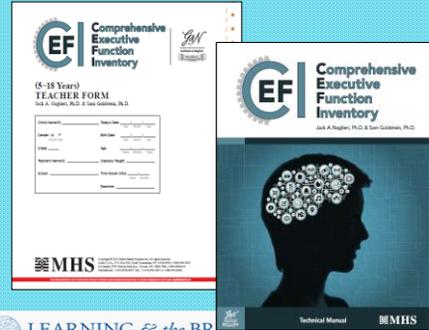
Executive Function(s)

- Given all these definitions of EF(s) we wanted to address the question...
Executive Function**s** ... or
Executive Function?

Executive Function(s)

- One way to examine this issue is to research the factor structure of behaviors related to EF(s)
- To do so, we examined the factor structure of the Comprehensive Executive Function Inventory (CEFI)
- We conducted a series of research studies to answer the following question:
 - What is the underlying structure of the behaviors assessed on the CEFI?
 - Is there is just one underlying factor called executive function), or do the behaviors group together into different constructs suggesting a multidimensional structure?

CEFI (Naglieri & Goldstein, 2012)



CEFI Full Scale (100 items)

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Attention | 1. Consistency Index |
| 2. Emotion Regulation | 2. Negative Impression |
| 3. Flexibility | 3. Positive Impression |
| 4. Inhibitory Control | |
| 5. Initiation | |
| 6. Organization | |
| 7. Planning | |
| 8. Self-Monitoring | |
| 9. Working Memory | |

EXPLORATORY FACTOR ANALYSES

- The normative samples for parents, teacher, and self ratings were randomly split into two samples and EFA conducted using
 - the item raw scores
 - nine scales' raw scores

CEFI Scales
 Attention
 Emotion Regulation
 Flexibility
 Inhibitory Control
 Initiation
 Organization
 Planning
 Self-Monitoring
 Working Memory

- The sample ...

CEFI Standardization Samples

- Sample was stratified by
 - Sex, age, race/ethnicity, parental education level (PEL; for cases rated by parents), geographic region
 - Race/ethnicity of the child (Asian/Pacific Islander, Black/African American/African Canadian, Hispanic, White/Caucasian, Multi-racial by the rater
 - Parent (N=1,400), Teacher (N=1,400) and Self (N=700) ratings were obtained

Item Factor Analyses – Part 1

90 Item factor analysis clearly indicated that one factor was the best solution

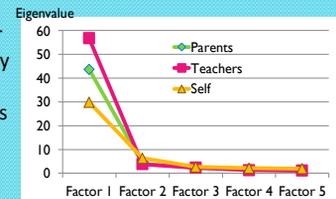


Table 8.2. Eigenvalues from the Inter-Item Correlations

Form	Factor						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Parent	43.7	4.1	2.3	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.0
Teacher	56.8	3.8	2.3	1.3	1.1	1.1	0.8
Self-Report	29.9	6.3	2.7	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.5

Note. Extraction equal Axis Factoring. Only the first 10 eigenvalues are presented.

Item Factor Analyses – Part 1

EFA for item groups:
Attention, Emotion Regulation, Flexibility, Inhibitory Control, Initiation, Organization, Planning, Self-Monitoring, and Working Memory scales

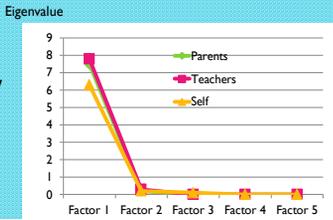


Table 8.4. Eigenvalues of the CEFI Scales Correlations

Form	Factor						
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Parent	7.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Teacher	7.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Self-Report	6.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1

Note: Extraction method: Pca

EXPLORATORY FACTOR ANALYSES

Table 8.6. Consistency of Factor Loadings Across Groups

Grouping Factor	CEFI Form	Coefficient of Congruence
Gender	Parent	.999
	Teacher	.999
	Self-Report	.992
Race/Ethnic Group	Parent	.996
	Teacher	.999
	Self-Report	.995
Age	Parent	.999
	Teacher	.999
	Self-Report	.995
Clinical/Educational	Parent	.993
	Teacher	.994
	Self-Report	.976

Nearly identical factor solutions (ALL ONE FACTOR) by Gender, Race/Ethnic, Age and Clinical/typical status

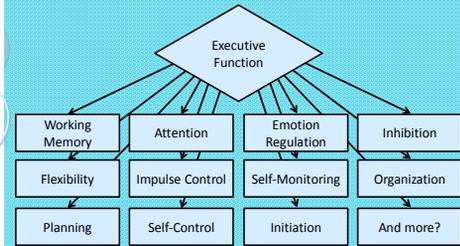
EXPLORATORY FACTOR ANALYSES

Conclusions

- When using parent (N = 1,400), teacher (N = 1,400), or self-ratings (N = 700) based on behaviors observed and reported for a nationally representative sample (N = 3,500) aged 5 to 18 years Executive Function *not* functions is the best term to use

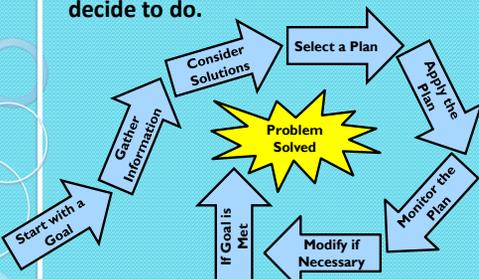
EF and its components

Abilities, cognitive processes, and behaviors



Naglieri & Goldstein, 2012

Executive Function is: **how you do what you decide to do.**



EF's Learning Curves

- Learning depends upon instruction and intelligence (&EF)
- At first, intelligence plays a major role in learning
- When a new task is learned and practiced it becomes a skill and execution requires less intelligence



Executive Function Involves

- **“How you decide *what to do*” demands...**
 - **Initiation** to achieve a goal, **planning** and **organizing** parts of a task, **attending** to details to notice success of the solution, keeping information in **memory**, having **flexibility** to modify the solution as information from **self-monitoring** is received and demonstrating **emotion regulation** (which also demands **inhibitory control**) to ensure clear thinking so that the task is completed successfully.

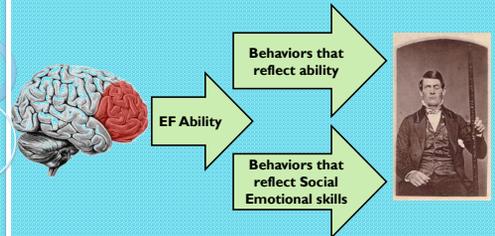
Time to Think and Talk

- We have covered the structure of behaviors related to Executive Function
- TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS about
 - What thoughts do you have about what has been presented
 - Any surprises?
 - Any concern?
 - Any questions?

EF: ability, behavior, social-emotional skill?

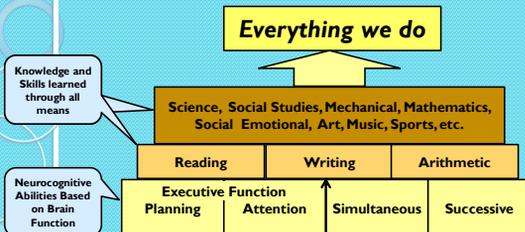
All are reflections of FRONTAL LOBE activity

EF Ability, Behavior, Social-Emotional



EF, Ability, Knowledge & Skills

- **Ability (aka intelligence)** = Abilities the brain provides
- **Knowledge** = all the information we have
- **Skill** = behaviors that demonstrate what we know



Presentation Outline

- Comprehensive Model of EF
 - Historical Perspective
 - Definitions of Executive Function
- EF as Behavior
- EF as an Ability (an intelligence)
- EF as Social Emotional Skills
- Research about EF as ability, behavior, and SE
- **Think Smart!** -- EF Skills in the Classroom
 - More lesson plans for improving components of EF
- Conclusions

A look at some EF Rating Scales



From Handbook of Executive Function (Goldstein & Naglieri, 2014)

LEARNING & the BRAIN

55

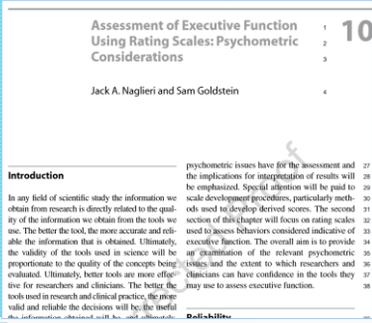
EF Rating Scales

- Measures real world behavior
- Able to sample multiple sources (self, parents, teachers)
- Efficient ways to evaluate EF
- However
 - self-ratings may be limited by impaired self-awareness
 - Observers may not be good at observing !
 - The quality of EF rating scales varies considerably

LEARNING & the BRAIN

56

Review of Rating Scales



Assessment of Executive Function Using Rating Scales: Psychometric Considerations

Jack A. Naglieri and Sam Goldstein

Introduction

In any field of scientific study the information we obtain from research is directly related to the quality of the information we obtain from the tools we use. The better the tool, the more accurate and reliable the information that is obtained. Ultimately, the validity of the tools used in science will be proportionate to the quality of the concepts being evaluated. Ultimately, better tools are more effective for researchers and clinicians. The better the tools used in research and clinical practice, the more valid and reliable the decisions will be. The useful

psychometric issues have for the assessment and the implications for interpretation of results will be emphasized. Special attention will be paid to scale development procedures, particularly methods used to develop derived scores. The second section of this chapter will focus on rating scales used to assess behaviors considered indicative of executive function. The overall aim is to provide an examination of the relevant psychometric issues and the extent to which researchers and clinicians can have confidence in the tools they may use to assess executive function.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

57

Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function (BRIEF)

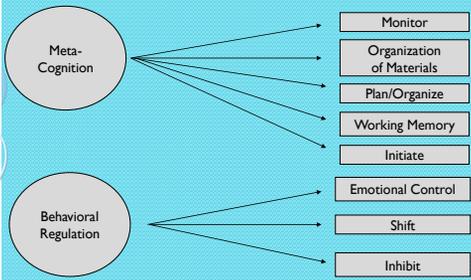
- High internal consistency (alphas = .80 -.98) and test-retest reliability (rs = .82 for parents, .88 for teachers) were found.



LEARNING & the BRAIN

58

Structure of the Brief



Meta-Cognition

- Monitor
- Organization of Materials
- Plan/Organize
- Working Memory
- Initiate

Behavioral Regulation

- Emotional Control
- Shift
- Inhibit

LEARNING & the BRAIN

59

Behavior Rating Inventory of Executive Function (BRIEF)



STANDARDIZATION

Demographic Characteristics

The goal of the sampling procedure for the normative group was to approximate the population of the United States according to key demographic variables: gender, socioeconomic status (SES), ethnicity, age, and geographical population density. The normative data samples were obtained through public and private school recruitment in urban, suburban, and rural settings in the State of Maryland, which has a full range of ethnicities, socioeconomic classes, and population densities. A total of 25 schools were sampled, including 12 elementary, 9 middle, and 4 high schools. A small subgroup of ratings of adolescents (n = 18) was obtained from the normal control group in a study of patients with traumatic brain injury at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio (Turkstra, 2000).

LEARNING & the BRAIN

60

Educational Attainment

Annual averages of Educational Attainment by State for persons 25 years old and over based on 2000 Census (American National Standards Institute)

State	2009		
	High school graduate or more	Bachelor's degree or more	Advanced degree or more
United States	85.3	27.9	10.3
1 Massachusetts	89.0	38.2	16.4
2 Maryland	88.2	35.7	16.0
3 Connecticut	88.6	35.6	15.5
4 Virginia	86.6	34.0	14.1
5 New York	84.7	32.4	14.0
6 Vermont	91.0	33.1	13.3
7 New Jersey	87.4	34.5	12.9
8 Colorado	89.3	35.9	12.7
9 Illinois	86.4	30.6	11.7
10 Rhode Island	84.7	30.5	11.7

Median household income for the US is \$50,022 and for Maryland is \$64,596

BRIEF-Adolescent (N=1,118)

STANDARDIZATION

Demographic Characteristics of the Normative Sample

The goal of the sampling procedure for the normative group was to approximate the U.S. population according to key demographic variables: age, gender, race/ethnicity, parent education, and geographical population density. The normative data samples were obtained through public and private school recruitment in urban, suburban, and rural settings in Maryland, Ohio, Vermont, New Hampshire, Florida, and Washington state. Combined, these environments offer a full range of races/ethnicities, socioeconomic classes, and population densities.



Delis-Rating of Executive Function

DREF Delis-Rating of Executive Functions

Delis-Rating of Executive Function (D-REF)
 Author(s): Dean C. Delis
 A quick measure of an individual's behaviors related to executive function difficulties

At a Glance:

Administration: On-line (paper available)
 Completion Time: 5-10 minutes per form
 Scores: T scores; Composite level
 Report Options: Single rater parent, teacher, or child reports; multiple rater reports, progress monitoring report
 Qualification level: B-Level
 Publication Date: 2012
 Ages / Grades: Individuals 5-18 years old
 Reading Level: 4th grade

Standardization Sample

- Manual states that the samples (Parent Raters N = 500; Teacher Raters N = 342; Self Ratings N = 220) are representative of the US population (ages 5-18 years)

Description and Representativeness of the Sample

The D-REF normative data are based on national samples representative of the U.S. population ages 6-18 years. Tables 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3 provide a comparison of the sample demographics to U.S. census targets for the Parent, Teacher, and Self rating forms. An analysis of data gathered in 2010 by the U.S. Bureau of the Census provided the basis for stratification according to the following variables: age, sex, race/ethnicity, and education level. All examinees were

Parent Form (N = 500)

Demographic Characteristics of the Normative Sample by Parent Education Level, Race/Ethnicity, Geographic Region, and Sex, by Age Group: Parent Form

	Parent Form											
	Age											
	5-6		7-8		9-10		11-12		13-14		15-18	
	U.S. Sample (%)	U.S. Pop.* (%)										
Parent Education Level												
Grade 11 or Less	13.0	11.7	11.0	11.7	8.6	10.7	5.7	10.4	6.7	10.2	10.0	9.8
High School or GED	23.0	24.1	25.0	26.0	28.6	26.5	27.1	25.7	25.0	26.9	27.0	26.1
Post Secondary	64.0	64.2	64.0	62.3	62.9	62.8	67.1	64.0	68.3	62.8	63.0	64.0
Race/Ethnicity												
African American	20.0	37.2	25.0	33.5	18.6	33.1	12.9	14.0	16.7	14.3	4.0	14.9
Hispanic	20.0	24.7	18.0	23.5	17.1	23.0	20.0	20.2	18.0	19.7	30.0	18.2
White	47.0	54.3	50.0	54.8	67.1	58.7	57.1	58.3	70.0	58.1	57.0	60.4
Other ^b	4.0	8.3	6.0	8.3	7.1	7.3	10.0	7.5	3.3	7.9	7.0	7.1
Geographic Region												
Northwest	31.0	15.8	37.0	17.3	12.9	16.7	5.7	16.0	1.7	18.8	8.0	17.8
Midwest	6.0	21.2	8.0	21.0	30.0	22.2	25.7	21.3	21.7	21.4	2.0	22.8
South	51.0	38.1	37.0	36.5	38.6	37.3	64.3	38.3	76.7	36.0	84.0	36.6
West	12.0	25.0	18.0	24.0	18.6	23.8	4.3	23.6	-	24.0	6.0	22.9
Sex												
Female	56.0	48.9	48.0	49.4	50.0	49.2	51.4	48.1	45.0	48.7	52.0	48.7
Male	44.0	51.1	52.0	50.6	50.0	50.8	48.6	51.9	55.0	51.3	48.0	51.3

Barkley's EF Scale

Barkley Deficits in Executive Functioning Scale—Children and Adolescents (BDEFS-CA)

Russell A. Barkley

Barkley's EF Scale

The breakdown in educational categories for the parent respondents in comparison with the 2000 U.S. Census (www.census.gov) is shown in the following:

Education category	Normative sample	U.S. Census
Less than high school	4.1%	10.1%
High school (diploma or equivalency)	28.1%	28.6%
Some college, no degree	23.0%	11.6%
Associate's degree	9.2%	6.5%
Bachelor's degree	22.0%	15.5%
Graduate degree	15.4%	8.9%

The present sample is generally comparable to the U.S. population in the percentage having high school diplomas or equivalency, some college, or associate's degrees but has a slight overrepresentation of individuals with bachelor's or graduate degrees. The sample also contains a lower percentage of those having less than a high school education than appear in the U.S. Census. The breakdown of educational levels of the nonrespondent parents follows: less than high school, 6.6%; high school, 20.6%; some college, no degree, 20.6%; associate's degree, 10.2%; bachelor's degree, 22.8%; graduate degree, 14.8%. These percentages are very similar to those for the respondent parents. The mean educational level for the children in the sample was 7.4 years ($SD = 3.5$, range = kindergarten [1] to 12th grade [13]), or roughly a mid-6th-grade education.

Importance of a National Norm

- What is the problem with not scores based on a sample that is not representative of the U.S. populations?
 - You don't know how much the score you get is influenced by demographic variables
 - Let's look at some data ...
- I created norms for groups of children based on PEL levels to see just how much influence this variable could have on a standard score (Mean = 100, SD = 15)

Importance of a National Norm

Calibration of Standard Scores (Mn = 100; SD = 15) Across Parental Educational Levels for CEFI Parent Ratings.

Raw Score	Standard Scores					
	<HS	HS Grad	Some Coll	Coll Grad	National	
230	96	91	88	85	90	
235	97	9	10 points	89	87	91
240	98	93	90	88	88	92
245	99	95	92	90	89	93
250	100	96	93	90	88	94
255	101	97	94	92	92	95
260	102	98	95	93	93	97
265	103	99	96	94	94	98
270	104	100	98	95	95	99
275	105	10	8 points	99	96	100
280	106	102	100	98	98	101
285	107	103	101	99	99	102
290	108	105	102	100	100	103
295	109	106	103	101	101	105
300	110	107	105	103	103	106
305	111	108	106	104	104	107
310	112	109	107	105	105	108
315	113	110	108	106	106	109

Time to Think and Talk

- We have covered the *size of the reference groups when scaling* behaviors related to Executive Function
 - What thoughts do you have about what has been presented
 - Any surprises?
 - Any concern?
 - Any questions?
- TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS about

Comprehensive Executive Function Inventory (CEFI)

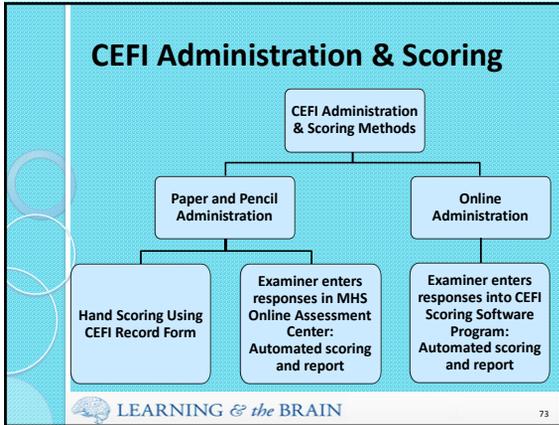
Jack A. Naglieri
Sam Goldstein

A rating scale designed to measure behaviors association with Executive Function for ages 5-18 years rated by a parent, teacher, or the child/youth.



CEFI Normative Samples

- 1,400 ratings by Parents for children aged 5-18 years
- 1,400 ratings by Teachers for children aged 5-18 years
- 700 ratings from the self-report form for those aged 12-18 years
- There were equal numbers of ratings of or by males and females
- Stratified according to the 2009 US Census by race/ethnicity, parental education, region, age, and sex



CEFI Forms

- The Comprehensive Executive Function Inventory (CEFI) measures behaviors associated with Executive Function (EF) for ages 5 to 18 years.
- The CEFI is completed by a parent, teacher, or the child/youth.
- Each form yields a **Full Scale** score and 9 separate content scales

CEFI Scales

- Attention
- Emotion Regulation
- Flexibility
- Inhibitory Control
- Initiation
- Organization
- Planning
- Self-Monitoring
- Working Memory

LEARNING & the BRAIN 74

One Factor and 9 Scales?

- NOTE: EF is a unidimensional concept
- Use the Full Scale to answer the question "Are the skills poor?"
- Use the specific groups of items that represent 9 different types of behaviors that can be addressed by Intervention

CEFI Scales

- Attention
- Emotion Regulation
- Flexibility
- Inhibitory Control
- Initiation
- Organization
- Planning
- Self-Monitoring
- Working Memory

If a problem with Inhibitory Control

LEARNING & the BRAIN 75

Efintheclassroom.net

Response Inhibition

Question of the week: Can you resist the urge to respond?

Marshmallow Experiment

1. Which of the kids reminds you of you and why?
2. When do you need to think before you act?
3. When is a small immediate reward better than a big long term reward.
4. When do you not need to think before you act?

Wrap-Up: This week we are going to resist the urge to act before we should.
Have the students talk about when they chose what gives a long term gain rather than the short term reward.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 76

Time to Think and Talk

- **Task:**
- Talk with your partner(s)
 - When do you need to think before acting?
 - When is it better to wait?

START	120 seconds left
	100 seconds left
	80 seconds left
	60 seconds left
	40 seconds left
	20 seconds left
	STOP

LEARNING & the BRAIN 77

Q: When do you need to think before acting?

- "All the time"
- "Like when your friend asks you to do something bad, you have to think on it"
- "We often act on impulse – I do that all the time"
- "There are certain things you just do without thinking – like when you hear a shot you run in swivels"

LEARNING & the BRAIN 78

Q: When is it better to wait?

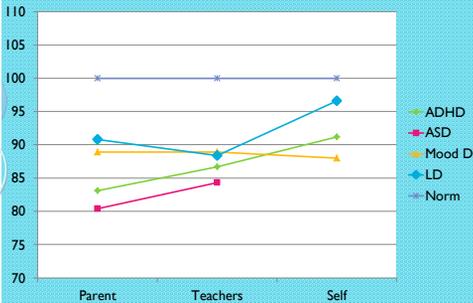
- “But it’s worth it to wait, wait for more marshmallows - For a whole bag I’d wait”
- “I’d wait longer if it was for money!”
- “I know that when it comes to money, I should save for tomorrow, but if I want something, I want it now.”
- “Some times you don’t want to overthink”
- “My phone is my marshmallow”

CEFI Scores by Diagnosis

- We expected that those with ADHD, mood disorders, and Autism Spectrum Disorders might earn a low CEFI Full Scale score.
- LD students should not be as low
- We compared groups matched on gender, race/ethnicity, and parental education

Impairment in executive function is common in a number of internalizing and externalizing forms of psychopathology (Willcutt et al., 2005, see chapter 2, *Theory and Research*, for further discussion). For instance, research and theory has pointed to executive function deficits in Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and mood disorders (e.g., Weyandt et al., in press), as well as Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD, e.g., Gilbert, Bird, Brindley, Frith, & Burgess, 2008; Gilotty, Kenworthy, Sirian, Black, & Wagner, 2002; Happé, Booth, Charlton, & Hughes, 2006; Ozonoff, Pennington, & Rogers, 1991; Solomon, Ozonoff, Ursu, Ravizza, Cummings, Ly, & Carter, 2009).

CEFI EF Scores by Group



CEFI and BRIEF

- The CEFI and BRIEF were compared using 320 parent, teacher, and self-ratings
- BRIEF yields T scores (50;10) scaled so that high scores indicate poor EF
 - These scores were converted to the 100 & 15 metric and inverted so that both tests have the same scaling
- Group was diagnosed with ADHD

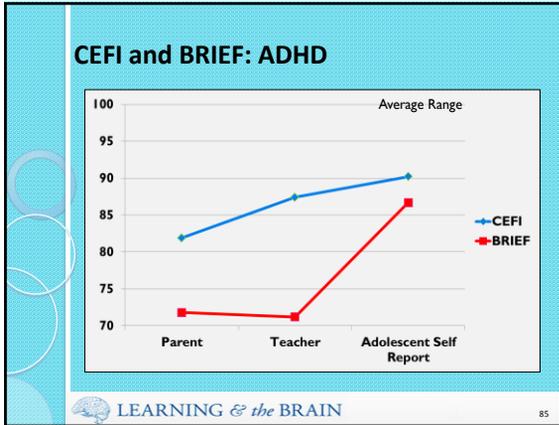
Areas Operationalized: CEFI vs. BRIEF

	CEFI		BRIEF
Emotion Regulation	Control of emotions, staying calm when dealing with small problems, reacting with the right amount of emotion.	Emotional Control	Modulate emotional responses/mood appropriately
Flexibility	Ability to respond appropriately to changing or altered situations or different people/circumstances	Shift	Transition smoothly between or adapt to new activities/ situations; problem-solve flexibly
Impulse Control	Restraining impulses, reactions, or behavior	Inhibit	Control, delay or stop impulses/ behavior
Initiate	Willing exertion of physical or mental effort in pursuit of a goal	Initiate	Begin activity; generate ideas; start new tasks
Memory	Ability to store, retain, manipulate, & recall information	Working Memory	Hold information in mind to complete a task; sustain focus
Organization	Applying a structure or system for arranging or classifying objects & tasks; methodical and efficient behavior	Organization of Materials	Clean up after oneself
Planning	Holding a mental representation of intended action that guides behavior; outline of steps to complete a task/solve a problem	Plan/Organize	Anticipate future events; set goals; develop steps; grasp main ideas; think prospectively; follow a plan
Self/Performance Monitoring	Ability to attend to & evaluate ongoing behavior/outcomes to make necessary corrections for successful goal completion	Monitor	Check work; assess performance; monitor effect of behavior on others

CEFI and BRIEF Means ADHD

Form	CEFI			BRIEF			Effect Size
	N	Mn	SD	N	Mn	SD	
Parent	57	81.9	11.7	57	71.8	13.7	.79
Teacher	51	87.4	11.1	51	71.2	23.7	.88
Self-Rating	32	90.2	14.2	32	86.7	15.9	.23

Note: Effect Sizes of .2 are considered small, .5 medium, and .8 large.



- ### Presentation Outline
- Comprehensive Model of EF
 - Historical Perspective
 - Definitions of Executive Function
 - EF as Behavior
 - EF as an Ability (an intelligence)
 - EF as Social Emotional Skills
 - Research about EF as ability, behavior, and SE
 - **Think Smart!** -- EF Skills in the Classroom
 - More lesson plans for improving components of EF
 - Conclusions
- LEARNING & the BRAIN 86

- ### Learning and Intelligence
- Teachers know a lot about instructional methods
 - But to help children learn, we have to know **HOW CHILDREN LEARN**
 - Difference instructional methods have different learning demands
 - We have to understand how the brain functions to understand learning, and the role of EF in the learning process
- LEARNING & the BRAIN 87

- ### EF is a Brain-Based Ability
- EF is an ability by virtue of its relationship to the brain
 - Because there is a relationship between **BRAIN FUNCTION** and **BEHAVIOR**, behaviors tell us about the **ABILITY** (sometimes...)
 - EF skills are the result of EF Ability **and** well practiced behaviors that reflect EF
 - Not all abilities and not all behaviors involve EF
- LEARNING & the BRAIN 88

A Theory of Learning

28 Cognitive Assessment System: Redefining Intelligence From a Neuropsychological Perspective

Jack A. Naglieri and Tulio M. Otero

INTRODUCTION

Pediatric neuropsychology has become an important field for understanding and treating developmental, psychiatric, psychological, and learning disorders. By addressing both brain functions and environmental factors intrinsic in complex behaviors, such as thinking, reasoning, planning, and the variety of executive capacities, clinicians are able to offer needed services to children with a variety of learning, psychiatric, and developmental disorders. Brain-behavior relationships are investigated by neuropsychologists by interpreting several aspects of an individual's cognitive, language-emotional, social, and motor behavior. Standardized instruments are used by neuropsychologists to collect information and derive inferences about brain-behavior relationships. Technology, such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), functional MRI (fMRI), positron emission tomography, computerized tomography, and diffusion tensor imaging, has reduced the need for neuropsychological tests to localize and assess brain damage. Neuropsychological tests, however,

Such tools should not be considered necessary for education and address the problem.

FROM NEUROPSYCHOLOGY TO ASSESSMENT

Luria's theoretical approach perhaps one of the most influential of brain-behavior relationships that the clinician the brain, the functional syndromes and impairments and clinical methods of theoretical formulations.

Andrew S. Davis
Editor

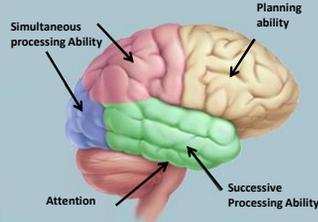
LEARNING & the BRAIN 89

- ### IQ defined by BRAIN function
- **PASS** theory is a modern way to define 'ability' (AKA – intelligence)
 - **Planning** = THINKING ABOUT THINKING
 - **Attention** = BEING ALERT
 - **Simultaneous** = GETTING THE BIG PICTURE
 - **Successive** = FOLLOWING A SEQUENCE
- LEARNING & the BRAIN 90

Brain, Cognition, & Behavior

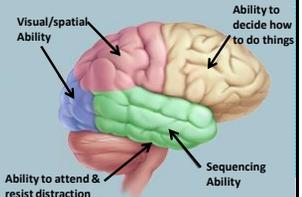
- The brain is the seat of abilities called PASS
- These abilities comprise what has been described as a modern view of intelligence (Naglieri & Otero, 2011)

Naglieri, J. A. & Otero, T. (2011). Cognitive Assessment System: Redefining Intelligence from A Neuropsychological Perspective. In A. Davis (Ed.), *Handbook of Pediatric Neuropsychology* (320-333). New York: Springer Publishing.



Brain, Cognition, & Behavior

- Different types of thinking (i.e. using different abilities) leads to different types of behavior.
- Good Frontal Lobe thinking leads to good decision making and better decisions about how to get things done.
- Poor Frontal Lobe thinking leads to problems with deciding how to think, act and relate to others



The Brain and Intelligence as PASS

PASS: A neuropsychological approach to intelligence based on three Functional Units described by A. R. Luria (1972)



Brain, Cognition, & Behavior

- **EF ability** is provided by the Frontal Lobes of the brain (an intelligence)
- **EF behaviors** are the result of experiences that influence likelihood that a person is strategic when doing things
- **EF Emotions** are the result of learning
- It is very important to measure EF Behaviors and EF Ability because they may be different

PASS Theory: Planning

- **Planning** is a neurocognitive ability that a person uses to determine, select, and use efficient solutions to problems
 - problem solving
 - developing plans and using strategies
 - retrieval of knowledge
 - impulse control and self-control
 - control of processing

PASS For Teachers (www.kathleenkryza.com)

Kathleen Kryza's
Infinite Horizons
www.kathleenkryza.com

August, 2013 Quick Links

"It is tempting, if the only tool you have is a hammer, to treat everything as if it were a nail." – Abraham Hamid Maslow

Plan to Succeed!
In the July newsletter, [Self-Regulation Empowers Students](#), we discussed Jack Naglieri's P.A.S.S. theory (Naglieri, 2010).

We described the four abilities as presented in the P.A.S.S. theory: Planning, Attention, Simultaneous processing, and Successive processing. When taught in conjunction, these abilities are shown to have long-term positive effects for students both in terms of academic success as well as personal concepts of self-efficacy.

As promised, we will now dig a little deeper into the first ability listed in the P.A.S.S. theory – Planning: "Planning is a neurocognitive ability that a person uses to determine, select, and use efficient solutions to problems. It involves: evaluation/analysis, selection or development

Measurement of EF as Intelligence

The Cognitive Assessment System

Jack A. Naglieri, Cara Conway

THEORY UNDERLYING THE CAS

The Cognitive Assessment System (CAS) (Naglieri & Das, 1997) is a multidimensional measure of ability based on a cognitive and neuropsychological processing theory called *Planning, Attention, Simultaneous, and Successive (PASS)* (Naglieri, 1999a, 2005). The PASS theory described by Naglieri and Das (1997b, 2005) is a reconceptualization of intelligence largely, but not solely, based on the neuropsychological work of A. R. Luria (1966, 1973, 1980, 1982). The four processes that make up the PASS theory represent a blend of cognitive and neuropsychological constructs, such as executive functioning (Planning) and selective attention (Attention), including tests that in the past were often arguably described as nonverbal/visual-spatial (Simultaneous) and sequencing/memory (Successive) (Naglieri & Das, 2002).

The PASS theory is a different approach to understanding intelligence that not only

theory may have its roots in neuropsychology, "its branches are spread over developmental and educational psychology" (Vanhagen & Das, 1986, p. 110). Thus, with its connections to developmental and cognitive processing, the PASS theory offers an advantage in explanatory power over the notion of traditional general intelligence (Naglieri & Das, 2002).

PASS Defined

The four cognitive processes that make up the PASS theory are each associated with different brain regions, cognitive abilities, and behaviors (Naglieri, Conway, & Goldstein, 2007). The four processes of the PASS theory are described more fully below:

Planning is a mental activity that provides cognitive control, intentionality, organization, self-regulation and use of processes, knowledge, and skills. This includes self-monitoring and impulse control as well as generation, evaluation, and execution of a plan. This process may involve control over the other three processes, as well as



Time to do a test of Planning

- You have a page called PC1 in your packet, please find it.
- Look at the boxes at the top of the page. The letter A has XX, the letter B has OX, the letter C has XX (point to the XX), and the letter D has OO. These are the codes that correspond to each letter
- Now look at the rest of the page where there are the letters A, B, C, and D, but there are no codes written under them. There are many boxes for you to complete. Fill in as many of these as you can, as fast as you can, using the answers shown at the top of the page. Do the first row, then the second row, and go from left to right without skipping any. You will have 60 seconds. Ready? Begin.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

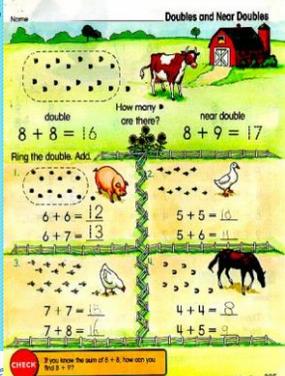
Time to do a test of Planning

- Now turn to the second page (PC2) in your packet.
- Look at this page. We're different answers for each letter. boxes at the top of the page. The letter A has OX, the letter B has XO, the letter C has OO (point to the XX), and the letter D has XX.
- Fill in as many of the boxes on the rest of the page as fast as you can, using the answers shown at the top of the page
- You can do it any way you want. Let's see how many you can do. You will have 60 seconds.
- Ready, begin.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Math Strategies

Note to the Teacher: When we teach children skills by helping them use strategies and plans for learning, we are teaching both knowledge and processing. Both are important.



LEARNING & the BRAIN

PASS Theory: Planning

Planning

- Evaluate a task
- Select or develop a strategy to approach a task
- Monitor progress during the task
- Develop new strategies when necessary

Examples of classroom problems related to Planning

- Using the same strategy even if it is not effective
- Struggling with how to complete tasks
- Not monitoring progress during a task
- Misinterpretation of what is read



Naglieri, Conway, & Goldstein, 2007

Planning Lesson

- STEP 1 – View the video
- STEP 2 – Discuss the video with the person sitting next to you.
- STEP 3 – Share your ideas with everyone

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Planning Lesson

- STEP 1 – View the video
- STEP 2 – Discussion of the video with someone sitting next to you.
- STEP 3 – Share your ideas with everyone

Time to Think and Talk

Task:

- Talk with your partner(s)
 - What had to happen so the people could dance together?
 - What are the parts of a plan?
 - How do you know if a plan is good?
 - What should you do if a plan isn't working?
 - How do we use planning in this class?

START	120 seconds left
	100 seconds left
	80 seconds left
	60 seconds left
	40 seconds left
	20 seconds left
	STOP

STEP 3 – Share your ideas

Planning Lesson

Phrase of the week: What is your plan?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQLCZOG202k>

1. What had to happen so that the people could dance together in this video?
2. What are the parts of a good plan?
3. How do you know if a plan is any good?
4. What should you do if a plan isn't working?
5. How do we use planning in this class?

Go to student learning log and create a plan for the week.

Planning Lesson Student responses

- Q: What would you have to plan out?
 - They had to learn the dance steps (knowledge)
 - Someone had to start dancing (initiation)
 - Permission from train station (planning)
- Q: What are the parts of a good plan?
 - Think of possible problems (strategy generation)
 - Organize the dance (organization)
 - Practice the dance steps (initiation)
 - Have a good idea of what to do (knowledge)

Planning Lesson Student responses

- Q3: How do you know if a plan is any good?
 - Put the plan in action and see if it works (self-monitoring)
 - Give it a try (perhaps learn by failing)
- 1.Q4: What should you do if a plan isn't working?
 1. Fix it. (self-correction)
 2. Go home ! (a bad plan)

Planning Lesson Student responses

- Q5: How do you use planning in this class?
1. We don't plan in this class
 2. Mrs. XXX does all the planning in this class so you don't have to think about planning

How might students react to being told that now they have to think and planning?

Like the Seinfeld video

This Planning Lesson

- This lesson brings to light the important distinction between planning over a long time (what was just shown) and real time planning

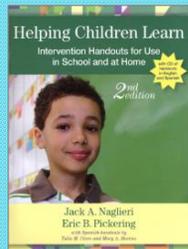
EF Instruction

- We use posters like this one to remind the students of the importance of PLANNING



Encourage Planning

- Helping Children Learn Intervention Handouts for Use in School and at Home, *Second Edition*
By Jack A. Naglieri, Ph.D., & Eric B. Pickering, Ph.D.,
- Spanish handouts by Tulio Otero, Ph.D., & Mary Moreno, Ph.D.



Step 1 – Talk with Students

How to Be Smart: Planning

When we say people are smart, we usually mean that they know a lot of information. But being smart also means that someone has a lot of ability to learn new things. Being smart at learning new things includes knowing and using your *thinking abilities*. There are ways you can use your abilities *better* when you are learning.

What Does Being Smart Mean?

One ability that is very important is called *Planning*. The ability to *plan* helps you figure out *how to do things*. When you don't know how to solve a problem, using *Planning* ability will help you figure out *how to do it*. This ability also helps you control what you think and do. It helps you to stop before doing something you shouldn't do. *Planning* ability is what helps you wait until the time is right to act. It also helps you make good decisions about what to say and what to do.

Step 1 – Talk with Students

How Can You Be Smarter?

You can be smarter if you PLAN before doing things. Sometimes people say, "Look before you leap," "Plan your work and work your plan," or "Stop and think." These sayings are about using the ability to plan. When you stop and think about *how to study*, you are using your ability to plan.

You will be able to do more if you remember to use a plan. An easy way to remember to use a plan is to look at the picture "Think smart and use a plan!" (Figure 1). You should always use a plan for reading, vocabulary, spelling, writing, math problem solving, and science.

Do you have a favorite plan for learning spelling words? Do you use flashcards or go on the Internet to learn? Do you ask the teacher or another student for help? You can learn more by using a plan for studying that works best for you.

Think smart and use a plan!

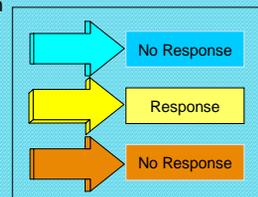


It is smart to have a plan for doing all schoolwork. When you read, you should have a plan. One plan is to look at the questions you have to answer about the story first. Then read the story to find the answers. Another plan is to make a picture of what you read so that you can see all the parts of the story. When you write you should also have a plan. Students who are good at writing plan and organize their thoughts first. Then they think about what they are doing as they write. Using a plan is a good way to be smarter about your work!

PASS Theory

- **Attention** is a neurocognitive ability that a person uses to selectively attend to some stimuli and ignore others

- selective attention
- focused cognitive activity over time
- resistance to distraction



Attention Test Instructions:
 You will see words like **RED**.
 Your task: say the **COLOR**
 (green) not the word (red)

READY ?

Attention

This sheet has a strong Attention demands because of the similarity of the options

PASS Theory: Attention

Attention

- Focus on one thing and ignore others
- Resist distractions in the learning environment

Examples of classroom problems related to Attention

- Trouble focusing on what is important
- Difficulty resisting distractions
- Difficulty working on the same task for very long
- Unable to see all the details
- Providing incomplete or partially wrong answers

Naglieri, J., and Pickering, E. Helping Children Learn, 2003

Attention Lesson

- Start by making students aware of what attention is ...
- View Attention video from Apollo Robbins
- Then provide Discussion
 - What did you learn from this video?
 - How can you attend better?
 - How can you resist distractions better?
- Then an Assignment – Make a list of times when you did well, and not so well, paying attention, noticing details, and resisting distractions.

Attention Lesson

- STEP 1 – View the video
- STEP 2 – Discuss the video with the person sitting next to you.
- STEP 3 – Share your ideas with everyone

Attention Lesson

- STEP 1 – View the video
- STEP 2 – Discussion of the video with someone sitting next to you.
- STEP 3 – Share your ideas with everyone

Time to Think and Talk

- **Task:**
- Time: 2 minutes
- Why do you think you were tricked by this video?
- How do you decide what to pay attention to, and what not to, in this class?
- What are your biggest distractions in class?
- What will you have the hardest time ignoring?

START	120 seconds left
	100 seconds left
	80 seconds left
	60 seconds left
	40 seconds left
	20 seconds left
STOP	

Step 3 – Share your thoughts

Sustained Attention Lesson

Phrase of the week: Where is your focus?

Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKCT-simmBo&noindex=1>

Q1: Why do you think you were tricked by this video?

Q2: How do you decide what to pay attention to, and what not to, in this class?

Q3: What are your biggest distractions in class? What will you have the hardest time ignoring?

Hand out Learning Logs:

Students go to SA section and create a list they (or the class as a whole) will try to ignore this week.

Planning and Attention = EF

- So far, the first two parts of the PASS theory fit nicely in the concept of EF
- How can EF behaviors be evaluated by the teacher?
 - Two methods...



Helping Children Learn 2nd Edition

- Items scored in the Never and Sometimes columns should be used to build interventions
- Items 1-6 (Planning) and 14-18 (Attention) can be used for Executive Function

PASS Rating Scale (PRS)				
Child's name:	Person completing the form:			
Task title:	Relationship to the child:			
During the past 2 months, how often did the child:	Never	Usually	Sometimes	Always
1. Work in a well-organized and ready way				
2. Use strategies and plans when doing work				
3. Estimate his or her own behavior				
4. Think before acting				
5. Have many ideas about how to do things				
6. Show self-control				
7. Perform well on social activities (e.g., meals, shopping)				
8. Understand how things go together				
9. See the big picture				
10. Understand complex verbal instructions				
11. Work well with patterns				
12. Like to use visual aids				
13. Show and receive things				
14. Work without being distracted by people or noise				
15. Pay close attention				
16. Listen to instructions without being distracted				
17. Work well for a long time				
18. Work well in noisy environment				
19. Work well with information in sequence				
20. Do tasks in steps presented one by one				
21. Remember the order of information				
22. Understand directions presented in sequence				
23. Work carefully with numbers in order				
24. Closely follow directions presented in order				

CAS2: Rating Scale Planning

Directions for Items 1-14. These questions ask how well the child or adolescent decides how to do things to achieve a goal. They also ask how well a child or adolescent thinks before acting and avoids impulsivity. Please how well the child or adolescent creates plans and strategies to solve problems.

During the past month, how often did the child or adolescent ...

	Never	Barely	Sometimes	Frequently	Always
1. control his or her behavior?	0	1	2	3	4
2. produce a well-written sentence or a story?	0	1	2	3	4
3. evaluate his or her own actions?	0	1	2	3	4
4. produce several ways to solve a problem?	0	1	2	3	4
5. have many ideas about how to do things?	0	1	2	3	4
6. have a good idea about how to complete a task?	0	1	2	3	4
7. solve a problem with a new solution when the old one did not work?	0	1	2	3	4
8. use information from many sources when doing work?	0	1	2	3	4
9. complete work in an organized way?	0	1	2	3	4
10. effectively solve new problems?	0	1	2	3	4
11. accept feedback or corrections well?	0	1	2	3	4
12. have well-described goals?	0	1	2	3	4
13. think before acting?	0	1	2	3	4
14. consider new ways to finish a task?	0	1	2	3	4

CAS2: Rating Scale Attention

Directions for Items 30-43. These questions ask how well the child or adolescent pays attention and resists distractions. The questions also ask about how well someone attends to one thing at a time. Please rate how well the child or adolescent pays attention.

During the past month, how often did the child or adolescent ...

	Never	Barely	Sometimes	Frequently	Always
30. direct his or her attention to one person at a time?	0	1	2	3	4
31. become easily absorbed in an activity?	0	1	2	3	4
32. work well in a noisy area?	0	1	2	3	4
33. stay with one task long enough to complete it?	0	1	2	3	4
34. focus when working alone?	0	1	2	3	4
35. not allow the actions or conversations of others to interrupt his or her work?	0	1	2	3	4
36. stay on task easily?	0	1	2	3	4
37. concentrate on a task until it was done?	0	1	2	3	4
38. listen carefully?	0	1	2	3	4
39. work without getting distracted?	0	1	2	3	4
40. have a good attention span?	0	1	2	3	4
41. listen to instructions or directions without getting off task?	0	1	2	3	4
42. pay attention in class?	0	1	2	3	4
43. attend to the details of a task?	0	1	2	3	4

Time to Think and Talk

- **Task:** START Take 5 minutes
- Time: 2 minutes 5 minutes left
- Fill out this form for a student you know 4 minutes left
- Talk about the behaviors you have seen related to Executive Function 3 minutes left
- Report back to the group 2 minutes left
- 1 minutes left
- STOP

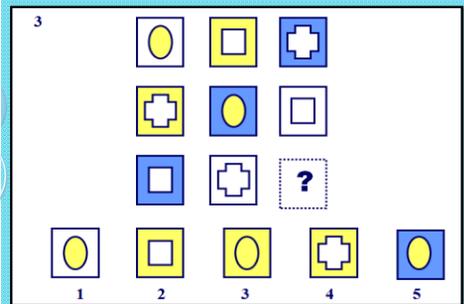
EF ability and the brain

- Planning and Attention have been included in conceptualizations of Executive Function
- The next two abilities are **not** related to EF
 - We will see what they are and ...
 - See how we can improve performance when these abilities are required by using EF (strategies) to improve performance

PASS Theory

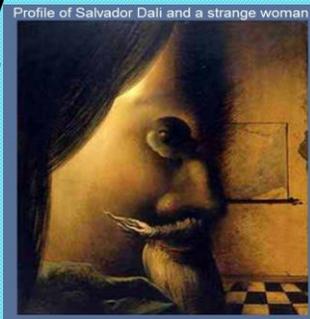
- **Simultaneous** is a neurocognitive ability a person uses to integrate stimuli into groups
 - Parts are seen as a whole
 - Each piece of information is related to others
 - Visual spatial tasks like blocks and puzzles on the Wechsler Nonverbal Scale
 - KABC Simultaneous Scale

Progressive Matrices

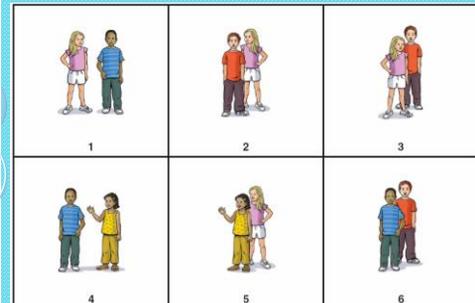


PASS Theory

- **Simultaneous** processing is what Gestalt psychology was based on
- Seeing the whole



Verbal-Spatial Relations



Which picture shows a boy behind a girl?

Numbers from 1 to 100

How can EF be brought to this Work sheet?

Use Simultaneous processing to see that patterns

LEARNING & the BRAIN

PASS Theory: Simultaneous

Simultaneous Processing

- Relate separate pieces of information into a group
- See how parts related to whole
- Recognize patterns

Examples of classroom problems related to Simultaneous Processing

- Difficulty comprehending text
- Difficulty with math word problems
- Trouble recognizing sight words quickly
- Trouble with spatial tasks
- Often miss the overall idea

Nazliert, J. and Pickering, E., Helping Children Learn, 2003

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Use EF to manage low Simultaneous

- How do you help a child with low simultaneous ability?
- Teach students to USE STRATEGIES
- What kinds of strategies could you use for tasks that require seeing the whole?

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Use EF

Graphic Organizers for Connecting and Remembering Information

Remembering and relating information is a common part of learning and daily life. Students are often expected to learn large amounts of new and unfamiliar information. Learning facts requires the student to see how information is connected or related. Students often remember this information better if they see it graphically and understand how it relates to knowledge they already have. Graphic organizers are designed to help students link teachers' present and organize information so it is easier to understand and remember.

Graphic Organizers

New information is better remembered if it is connected to information the students already know. Graphic organizers are visual representations of information that shows the links of new information to other, existing information. This makes the new information easier to understand and learn. Furthermore, the visual nature of graphic organizers and the links they make help students understand and connect between information parts. For example, a graphic organizer might be used to teach young children about different animals. A child learning about different kinds of animals might already know what a fish is. This knowledge can be used to graphically organize whales, sharks, and dolphins. They all live underwater, but sharks have gills and are fish. Whales and dolphins have lungs and breathe air, so they are not fish (Figure 1 represents one way to map this graph).

Another type of graphic organizer is a Venn diagram, which uses circles to demonstrate how concepts are related. Figure 2 shows the same information as Figure 1, but in the form of a Venn diagram.

How to Teach Graphic Organizers

Graphic organizers are fairly simple to create. They need not be reserved for factual information. They can be used for activities such as exploring creative concepts, organizing writing, and developing language skills. The following four steps can be used to create a graphic organizer.

1. Select information that you need to present to the child (which may be from a story, a chapter, or any concept).
2. Determine the key components that are necessary for the child to learn.

Figure 1. One kind of graphic organizer.

Figure 2. One kind of graphic organizer.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Venn Diagram

Graphic Organizers for Connecting and Remembering Information (continued)

Figure 2. A Venn diagram used as a graphic organizer.

3. Create the graphic representation of the information. The illustration should include the key concepts, concepts the child already knows, and the linkages between the concepts.
4. Present the organizer to the child and discuss it to be sure he or she understands the information and sees the connections.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Successive Processing Ability

- **Successive** processing is a basic cognitive ability which we use to manage stimuli in a specific serial order
 - Stimuli form a chain-like progression
 - Stimuli are not inter-related

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Word Series

- The child repeats a series of words in the same order the examiner says them

1. Wall-Car
2. Shoe-Key
- ...
10. Cow-Wall-Car-Girl
11. Dog-Car-Girl-Shoe-Key
- ...
27. Cow-Dog-Shoe-Wall-Man-Car-Girl

Sentence Questions (Ages 8-17)

- The child answers a question read by the examiner

1. The blue is yellow. Who is yellow?
10. The red greened the blue with a yellow. Who used the yellow?
20. The red blues a yellow green of pinks, that are brown in the purple, and then grays the tan. What does the red do first?

Successive

The sequence of the sounds is emphasized in this work sheet



Learning Math Facts

$$8 + 9 = 17$$

$$8 + 9 = 17$$

$$8 + 9 = 17$$



PASS Theory: Successive

Successive Processing

- Use information in a specific order
- Follow instructions presented in sequence

Examples of classroom problems related to Successive Processing

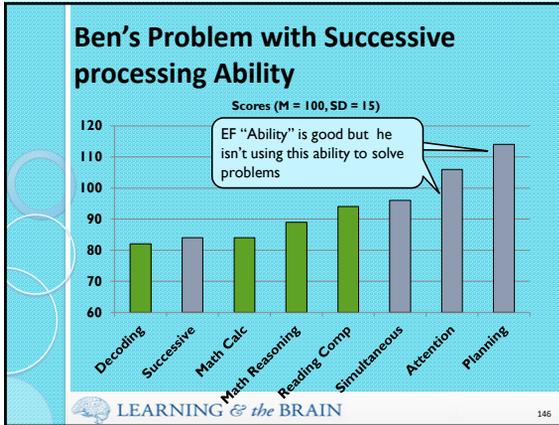
- Trouble blending sounds to make words
- Difficulty remembering numbers in order
- Reading decoding problems
- Difficulty remembering math facts when they are taught using rote learning ($4 + 5 = 9$).

Ben's Problem with Successive Processing



Ben was an energetic but frustrated third-grade student who liked his teachers, was popular with his peers, and fit in well socially at school. However, Ben said he did not like school at all, particularly schoolwork. Ben was good at turning in all of his work on time, and he worked hard, but he earned poor grades. He appeared to be getting more and more frustrated at school.

In general, Ben struggled to perform well because he had a lot of trouble following directions that were not written down, his writing often did not make sense, and he did not appear to comprehend what he read. Ben's teachers noticed that when directions for assignments and projects were given orally in class, he often only finished part of the task. Ben's teacher described an assignment in which students had to collect insects, label them, organize them into a collection, and then give a brief presentation about each insect. Unlike any other student, Ben chose to make the labels for the insects first and then go look for the insects. He found only a few of the insects he had made labels for, and when he put them in the collection, they were not in the order that had been specified. He also had trouble with the spelling of the scientific names of the insects and made many errors in the sequence of letters in the words.



Case of Ben

- Planning = Strength
- Successive = Weakness and it is < 85; so it can be considered a 'disorder in basic psychological processes'

		Diff
Planning	114	14
Attention	106	6
Simultaneous	96	-4
Successive	84	-16
PASS Mean	100	

LEARNING & the BRAIN 147

Ben's Problem with Successive Ability

- Ben has difficulty whenever ANY task requires sequencing
 - Academic or ability tests
 - Visual or auditory tests
 - Math or spelling or reading
 - Tasks that require memory of sequences
- How do we help him learn better?

LEARNING & the BRAIN 148

Time to Think and Talk

- Task: **START** 120 seconds left
- Talk with your partner(s) to answer the question: **"How can you bring Executive Function into a Successive processing task?"**
 - 100 seconds left
 - 80 seconds left
 - 60 seconds left
 - 40 seconds left
 - 20 seconds left
 - STOP**
- Time: 2 minutes

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Use EF with Sequencing Tasks

How Can You Be Smarter?

You can be smarter if you PLAN before doing things. Sometimes people say, "Look before you leap," "Plan your work and work your plan," or "Stop and think." These sayings are about using the ability to plan. When you stop and think about *how* to study, you are using your ability to plan.

You will be able to do more if you remember to use a plan. An easy way to remember to use a plan is to look at the picture "Think smart and use a plan!" (Figure 1). You should always use a plan for reading, vocabulary, spelling, writing, math problem solving, and science.

Do you have a favorite plan for learning spelling words? Do you use flashcards or go on the Internet to learn? Do you ask the teacher or another student for help? You can learn more by using a plan for studying that works best for you.

Think smart and use a plan!

I figured out how to do it!

Use a plan.

It is smart to have a plan for doing all schoolwork. When you read, you should have a plan. One plan is to look at the questions you have to answer about the story first. Then read the story to find the answers. Another plan is to make a picture of what you read so that you can see all the parts of the story. When you write you should also have a plan. Students who are good at writing plan and organize their thoughts first. Then they think about what they are doing as they write. Using a plan is a good way to be smarter about your work!

Ben's Problem with Successive Ability

- Teach him to use his strength in Planning

How to Be Smart: Planning

When we say people are smart, we usually mean that they know a lot of information. But being smart also means that someone has a lot of ability to learn new things. Being smart at learning new things includes knowing and using your *thinking abilities*. There are ways you can use your abilities *better* when you are learning.

What Does Being Smart Mean?

One ability that is very important is called *Planning*. The ability to *plan* helps you figure out *how to do things*. When you don't know how to solve a problem, using Planning ability will help you figure out how to do it. This ability also helps you control what you think and do. It helps you to stop before doing something you shouldn't do. Planning ability is what helps you wait until the time is right to act. It also helps you make good decisions about what to say and what to do.

Ben's Problem with Successive Ability

➤ Teach him to recognize sequences

How to Teach Successive Processing Ability

1. Teach children that most information is presented in a specific sequence so that it makes sense.
2. Encourage children by asking, "Can you see the sequence of events here?" or "Did you see how all of this is organized into a sequence that must be followed?"
3. Remind the students to think of how information is sequenced in different content areas, such as reading, spelling, and arithmetic, as well as in sports, playing an instrument, driving a car, and so forth.
4. Teach children that the sequence of information is critical for success.
5. Remind students that seeing the sequence requires careful examination of the serial relationships among the parts.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 152

Ben's Problem with Successive Ability

➤ Teach him to use strategies

Chunking for Reading/Decoding

Segmenting Words for Reading/Decoding and Spelling

Decoding a written word requires the person to make sense out of printed letters to translate letter sequences into sounds. This demands understanding the sounds that letters represent and how letters work together to make sounds. Sometimes words can be segmented into parts for easier and faster reading. The word *into* is a good example because it contains two words that a child may already know: *in* and *to*. Segmenting words can be a helpful strategy for reading as well as spelling.

How to Teach Segmenting Words

Segmenting words is an effective strategy to help students read and spell. By dividing the words into groups, students also learn how words are constructed and how the parts are related to one another. Students should be taught that words can be broken down into segments or chunks. The teacher should present the following methods in a direct and explicit manner:

LEARNING & the BRAIN 155

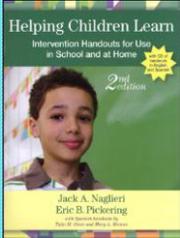
Chunking & Spelling

An illustration

LEARNING & the BRAIN 154

Use EF with Successive tasks

➤ From Helping Children Learn Second Edition (Naglieri & Pickering, 2009)



LEARNING & the BRAIN 155

Use EF with Successive tasks

Chunking for Reading/Decoding

Plan	Action
Look at the word.	"I see the word <i>beginning</i> ."
Find the chunk.	"I see the chunk <i>ginn</i> in the middle."
Sound out the chunk.	"I say, 'ginn.'"
Sound out the beginning.	"I say, 'be.'"
Sound out the chunk.	"I say, 'ginn.'"
Sound out the ending.	"I say, 'ing.'"
Say the word.	"I say, 'beginning.'"

Figure 1. Recommended organization of letter groups in a word.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 156

Use EF with Successive tasks

Segmenting Words for Reading/Decoding and Spelling

Decoding a written word requires the person to make sense out of printed letters and words and to translate letter sequences into sounds. This demands understanding the sounds that letters represent and how letters work together to make sounds. Sometimes words can be segmented into parts for easier and faster reading. The word *into* is a good example because it contains two words that a child may already know: *in* and *to*. Segmenting words can be a helpful strategy for reading as well as spelling.

How to Teach Segmenting Words

Segmenting words is an effective strategy to help students read and spell. By dividing the words into groups, students also learn how words are constructed and how the parts are related to one another. Students should be taught that words can be broken down into segments or chunks. The teacher should present the following methods in a direct and explicit manner:

- Take the word apart. Break down the word into its component parts or syllables. For example, look at the word *reshaped*: it includes the main word *shape* with the prefix *re-* and the ending *-d*. Knowing that the main word *shape* has *re* and *d* added makes it easier to recognize than to try and sound out *r-e-s-h-a-p-e-d*.
- Identify prefixes. A prefix is a letter or group of letters at the beginning of a word. When a word has a prefix, imagine that there is a hyphen between the word and the prefix, and you can usually see the main word. For example, *misstep* includes the prefix *mis-* and the word *step* that are simply put together.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 157

Segmenting Plan for Spelling

Syllable Addition: Combine the first syllable of the first word with the second syllable of the second word to write a Basic or Review Word.

Example: transport + confer = transfer

13. adhere + permit
 14. inside + constant
 15. laundries + sandy
 16. suppose + apply
 17. carpet + bottom
 18. surprise + burglar
 19. effect + comfort
 20. journal + chimney
 21. whistle + supper
 22. bully + model
 23. employ + display
 24. campaign + rangus
 25. arrive + doctor
 26. burlesque + garden

Write your spelling words in BIG letters. Practice saying the words out loud with a partner.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 158

EF strategy changes the → Knowledge/skill

I wonder how I can remember 7033811?

When this strategy is well learned it becomes a skill

This requires Executive Function

Do This

Think smart and use a plan!

I figured out how to do it!

Use a plan.

I can remember 7033811 easier if I put the numbers in groups: 70-33-811

LEARNING & the BRAIN 160

Take Away Messages

- CAS Planning and Attention scores tell about Executive Function
 - So CAS *includes* EF as a critical part of ability (aka intelligence)
- Traditional IQ tests do not measure Executive Function
 - So EF is the important ability missed when you look at an IQ score

LEARNING & the BRAIN 160

Teach Children about their Abilities

- Helping Children Learn Intervention Handouts for Use in School and at Home, *Second Edition* By Jack A. Naglieri, Ph.D., & Eric B. Pickering, Ph.D.,
- Spanish handouts by Tulio Otero, Ph.D., & Mary Moreno, Ph.D.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 161

Four Ways to Think Smart!

Think smart and use a plan!

I figured out how to do it!

Use a plan.

Think smart and look at the details!

LOOK at the details.

Think smart and put the pieces together!

See how things fit together.

Think smart and follow the sequence!

1 2 3 Follow the order.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 163

Take Away Messages

- CAS Planning and Attention scores tell about Executive Function
 - So CAS *includes* EF as a critical part of ability (aka intelligence)
- Traditional IQ tests do not measure Executive Function
 - So EF is the important ability missed when you look at an IQ score

LEARNING & the BRAIN 163

Conclusions on PASS abilities and EF as ability /behavior /emotion

- The essential aspects of EF are subsumed under the Planning and Attention portions of the PASS theory of intelligence
- This includes:
 - **Initiation** to achieve a goal, **planning** and **organizing** parts of a task, **attending** to details to notice success of the solution, keeping information in **memory**, having **flexibility** to modify the solution as information from **self-monitoring** is received and demonstrating **emotion regulation** (which also demands **inhibitory control**) to ensure clear thinking so that the task is completed successfully.

Time to Think and Talk

- We have covered the *EF as one part of intelligence*
- TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS about
 - What thoughts do you have about what has been presented
 - Any surprises?
 - Any concern?
 - Any questions?

Presentation Outline

- Comprehensive Model of EF
 - Historical Perspective
 - Definitions of Executive Function
- EF as Behavior
- EF as an Ability (an intelligence)
- EF as Social Emotional Skills
- Research about EF as ability, behavior, and SE
- **Think Smart!** -- EF Skills in the Classroom
 - More lesson plans for improving components of EF
- Conclusions

Phineas had Social Emotional deficit

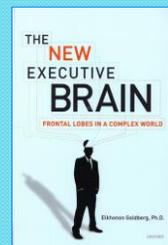
- Phineas had profound social emotional problems after his injury to the frontal lobes
- Phineas is
 - insulting
 - impulsively say things
 - uses vulgar language
 - can't manage his emotions
 - inconsistent in social situations
 - doesn't recognize he is offensive
 - loses control in interactions with others

Frontal Lobes

- Phineas has social and emotional problems
- Social emotional is often described using a variety of terms
 - Social emotional learning (CASEL)
 - Protective factors related to Resilience
 - Mental health
 - Behavior disorders
 - Emotional disturbance

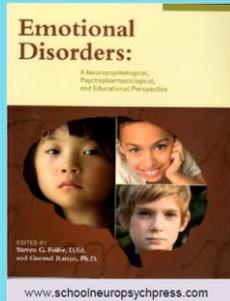
Frontal Lobes and Emotion

- Goldberg (2011, p 116-117)
 - the "emphasis in the classic studies of frontal lobe syndromes was on cognition [intelligence] rather than on affect [social emotional]"
 - 'very few researchers have attempted to merge cognitive and emotional aspects of frontal lobe dysfunction'



Feiffer & Rattan (2009)

- Provide a collection of paper on the relationship between EF and Emotional Disorders
- See Feifer@comcast.net



Feiffer & Rattan (2009) on EF and Frontal Lobes

The Cerebral Orchestra of Emotions: Cortical Regions

- (1) **Orbitofrontal cortex** - region of the brain responsible for ascribing an emotional valence or value judgment to another's feelings. Often triggers an automatic social skills response (Rolls, 2004).
- Has rich interconnections with the limbic system by way of the *anterior cingulate*.
 - Responsible for *emotional executive functioning*.
 - Self-regulation of behavior.... highest levels of emotional decision making dictated by this brain region.

The Cerebral Orchestra of Emotions: Cortical Regions

- (2) **Ventrolateral prefrontal cortex** - responsible for response inhibition and emotional regulation. Has rich interconnections with the limbic system. Also involved with *emotional executive functioning*. Situated adjacent to orbitofrontal cortex and involved in the ability to take another's perspective on an emotional event (*theory of mind*).

Social Emotional Skills: From Conceptual to Assessment to Instruction

Federal SEL Legislation

- HR 4223 – “*The Academic, Social and Emotional Learning Act.*”
 - Establish a National Technical Assistance and Training Center for SEL
 - Provide grants to support evidence-based SEL programs
 - Conduct a national evaluation of SEL programs

www.casel.org

Navigation: About | Why it Matters | In Schools | Collaborating Districts Initiative | Policy & Advocacy | Research

Student Gains: Social-emotional skills, Academic achievement, Positive relationships, Self-regulation, Problem-solving skills.

Reduced Risks for Failure: Conduct problems, Aggression/behavior, Emotional distress.

Collaborating Districts Initiative: This is a national initiative to take social and emotional learning to scale in high-need districts. Three have already been selected. Five more will be selected by December 2011.

All Invited: Roger Weissberg to speak Oct. 20 in Chicago. Roger Weissberg is speaker on Oct. 20 at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Center for Social and Emotional Learning. Public invited.

Twitter Feed: @CASELorg @janedevries Thanks for the shout-out! There are only a few days left to submit your nomination for the 2011 CASEL Distinguished Educator Award. #CASEL11

The Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning

- CASEL is a nonprofit with a mission to:
- Advance the science of SEL
- Expand effective SEL practice in schools
- Improve state and federal policies
- Responsible for a recent Meta-analysis of the research (next slide)

Skills for Social and Academic Success

Research Links SEL to Higher Success

- 23% gain in SE skills
- 9% gain in attitudes about self/others/school
- 9% gain in pro-social behavior
- 11% gain on academic performance via standardized tests (math and reading)

And Reduced Risks for Failure

- 9% difference in problem behaviors
- 10% difference in emotional distress

Source: Durlak, J.A., Weissberg, R.P., Dymnicki, A.B., Taylor, R.D., and Schellinger, K. (2011). The Impact of Enhancing Students' Social and Emotional Learning: A Meta-Analysis of School-Based Universal Interventions. *Child Development, 82*, 405-432.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Social Emotional Skills

What is Social and Emotional Learning?

The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) describes SEL as the process of developing the following five sets of core competencies in the context of self, caring, well-managed, academically rigorous, and engaging learning environments:

- 1 **Self-awareness**—being able to accurately assess one's feelings, interests, values, and strengths; maintaining a well-grounded sense of self-confidence
- 2 **Self-management**—being able to regulate one's emotions to handle stress, control impulses, and persevere in overcoming obstacles; setting and monitoring progress toward personal and academic goals; expressing emotions effectively
- 3 **Social awareness**—being able to take the perspective of and empathize with others; recognizing and appreciating individual and group similarities and differences; recognizing and using family, school, and community resources
- 4 **Relationship skills**—being able to establish and maintain healthy and rewarding relationships based on cooperation; resisting inappropriate social pressure; preventing, managing, and resolving interpersonal conflict; seeking help when needed
- 5 **Responsible decision-making**—being able to make decisions based on consideration of reason, ethical standards, safety concerns, social norms, respect for self and others, and likely consequences of various actions; applying decision-making skills to academic and social situations; contributing to the well-being of one's school and community.¹

Five key social-emotional skills from CASEL

These are in many state and local standards

LEARNING & the BRAIN

U.S. Department of Labor

Employers want:

- Learning-to-learn skills
- Listening and verbal communication
- Creative thinking and problem solving
- Personal management: self esteem, motivation
- Group effectiveness: interpersonal skills, negotiation, teamwork
- Organizational effectiveness and leadership
- Competence in reading, writing, and computation

LEARNING & the BRAIN

NASP's Integrated and Comprehensive School Psychological Services Model

School psychologists should have

- knowledge of...evidence-based strategies to promote social-emotional skills
- Use assessment methods.. that support socialization, learning and mental health
- knowledge of varied methods of assessment for identifying social-emotional strengths and needs
- use valid and reliable assessment techniques

LEARNING & the BRAIN

In Goldstein & Brookes (2013)

Measuring Resilience in Children: From Theory to Practice¹⁴

Jack A. Naglieri, Paul A. LeBuffe, and Katherine M. Ross

Introduction

The concept of resilience, like all psychological constructs, must have certain characteristics in order to be subjected to experimental testing so as to be effectively applied to benefit our constituency. A primary characteristic is that resilience must be operationally defined in a way that is reliable across time, subjects, and researchers. Once a concept is operationalized in a reliable manner, then its validity can be examined. When we have sufficiently operationalized the concept of resilience, and there is evidence that it can be measured in a reliable and valid way, then application in clinical and educational settings becomes possible. This is an ideal sequence for the development tools for testing new concepts, but it is not how many concepts and tests used in education and psychology have been promulgated.

In practice, there is great emphasis on helping clients and pressure to implement new approaches even if they have only been minimally tested. If an idea appears logical and appears to help clients then it seems reasonable to believe that the construct possesses validity, however ill-defined that may be. Unfortunately, what seems logical and consistent with clinical experience may not be true. As noted by Garb (2003, p. 32), "Results

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Quality of SEL Measures

Table 14.1 Psychometric characteristics of scales used to measure variables related to resilience

Rating scale	No. of items	Age range	Informants	Scores for scales	Comparison sample size	Sample description	Match to US population
Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social-Emotional (ASQ:SE)	Varies	3-66 months	Parents	Raw score	2,633	National sample	No
Behavioral and Emotional Rating Scale (BERS)	52	6-9 years	Teachers, parents, self	Raw scores, percentiles, scale scores	2,176	National sample	Yes
Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA)	37	2-5 years	Parents and teachers	T-score	2,000	National sample	Yes
Devereux Early Childhood Assessment—Classic (DECA-C)	62	2-5 years	Parents and teachers	T-score	2,000	National sample	Yes
Devereux Early Childhood Assessment—Infant/Toddler (DECA-IT)	33 (infant form) and 36 (toddler form)	1-36 months	Parents and teachers	T-score	2,183	National sample	Yes
Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA)	72	5-14 years	Parents and teachers	T-score	2,500	National sample	Yes
Devereux Student Strengths Assessment—Mini (DESSA-mini)	Four 8 item forms	5-14 years	Teachers	T-score	1,250	National sample	Yes
Devereux Student Strengths Assessment—Second Step Edition (DESSA-2SE)	36 items	5-14 years	Teachers	T-score	1,250	National sample	Yes
Penn Interactive Play Scale	32	preK & K	Parents and teachers	T-score	312	African American Head Start populations living in high-risk, low income urban population	No
Preschool Behavioral and Emotional Rating Scale (preBERS)	42	3-6 years	Parents and teachers	Scaled scores	1,471	Typical preschool, head start, and early childhood special education	Yes
Resiliency Scales for Children and Adolescents (RSCA)	64	9-18 years	Self report	T-score	650	National sample	No

LEARNING & the BRAIN

The DESSA Comprehensive System

- Universal screening with an 8-item, strength-based behavior rating scale, the *DESSA-mini*
 - Provides an overall measure of social-emotional competence for universal screening and ongoing progress monitoring
- Follow-up with at-risk students with the 72-item *DESSA* to identify specific areas of need



LEARNING & the BRAIN

<http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/>



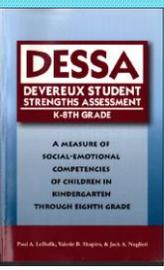
Devereux
CENTER FOR RESILIENT CHILDREN

Mental health experts speak out on the importance of early childhood social and emotional screening, and their success with the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment Program.

Watch the video!

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Assessment of Social Emotional Skills with the DESSA



LEARNING & the BRAIN

The DESSA

- Based on resilience theory & SEL principles described by CASEL
 - Identify social-emotional strengths and needs of elementary and middle school children (for K-8th grade)
 - 72 items and 8 scales
 - Completed by parents, teachers, and/or after-school / community program staff
 - Takes 15 minutes to complete
 - On-line administration, scoring and reporting available

LEARNING & the BRAIN

DESSA Norms

- 2,475 children, grades K-8
- All 50 states included in sample
- Representative of US Population

	Males		Females		Total	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Kindergarten	256	52.0	236	48.0	492	19.8
1st Grade	186	50.0	186	50.0	372	15.2
2nd Grade	141	50.0	141	50.0	282	11.5
3rd Grade	140	50.0	140	50.0	280	11.4
4th Grade	134	47.5	149	52.5	283	11.4
5th Grade	128	49.1	128	50.9	256	10.5
6th Grade	83	48.9	82	51.1	165	6.7
7th Grade	57	46.7	65	53.3	122	4.9
8th Grade	46	44.2	59	55.8	105	4.3
Total Sample	1,228	49.3	1,249	50.7	2,475	100.0
U.S. %		51.2		48.8		

LEARNING & the BRAIN

CASEL and DESSA Scales

1 Self-awareness—being able to ac and strengths; maintaining a well	Self Awareness
2 Self-management—being able to control impulses, and persevere progress toward personal and ac	Self Management
3 Social awareness—being able to others; recognizing and apprecia differences; recognizing and usin	Social Awareness
4 Relationship skills—being able to relationships based on cooperati preventing, managing, and resolv needed	Relationship Skills
5 Responsible decision-making—t consideration of reason, ethica for self and others, and likely co making skills to academic and so one's school and community.'	Decision Making
Social Emotional Composite	Goal Directed Behavior
	Personal Responsibility
	Optimistic Thinking

LEARNING & the BRAIN

DESSA Rating Form (72 items)

LEARNING & the BRAIN

DESSA Individual Student Profile

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Charles' Individual Student Profile

- Charles
- 11 year old / 5th Grade
- Special education student (EBD) since age 7
- Born into foster care, adopted at age 2.5
- History of behavioral concerns

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Intervention

- Step 1 – identify goal(s) of most concern
- Step 2 – identify *relevant* strengths that can be leveraged
- Step 3 – identify strategy
 - Communicate by beginning with strengths
 - Many good existing curricula
 - SAMHSA
 - The National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices (<http://nrepp.samhsa.gov>)

LEARNING & the BRAIN

<http://nrepp.samhsa.gov>

LEARNING & the BRAIN

<http://nrepp.samhsa.gov>

- Research on this intervention is described and published references provided

Implementation Materials	Training and Support Resources	Quality Assurance Procedures	Overall Rating
3.5	4.0	3.8	3.8

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Second Step Method for Teaching Social Emotional Skills

Program Materials: K-3 Kits

Posters, K & G1 Puppets, Listening Rules and Skills for Learning Cards, Lesson Cards, Unit Cards, Song CD, Teaching Materials Binder, Online Resources, DVD

secondSTEP
www.secondstep.org

LEARNING & the BRAIN 196

Second Step Method for Teaching Social Emotional Skills

Program Skills and Topics

K - 3

- Skills for learning
- Empathy
- Emotion management
- Friendship skills and problem solving

4 - 5

- Skills for learning and empathy
- Emotion management
- Problem solving

secondSTEP
www.secondstep.org

LEARNING & the BRAIN 197

Second Step Method for Teaching Social Emotional Skills

Lesson 8: Accepting Differences

Lesson 8: Accepting Differences

Lesson Objectives, Key Words, Why the Lesson Matters, Learning Goals, Why the Lesson Matters, Teaching Notes, Back of Lesson Card

secondSTEP
www.secondstep.org

LEARNING & the BRAIN 199

Treatment Effectiveness 2nd Step

➤ Pretest-Posttest Comparisons to evaluate the effectiveness of strategies

DESSA The Devereux Student Strengths Assessment

Second Step Edition (DESSA-SSE) For Grades K-5

Paul A. LeBuffe, Jack A. Naglieri, & Valerie B. Shapiro

Child's Name: _____ Gender: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____
 School/Organization: _____ Classroom/Program: _____ Grade: _____
 Person Completing This Form: _____ Relationship to Child: _____ Date of Rating: _____

Scale Raw Score	Skills for Learning (SL)	Security (SP)	Situation Management (SM)	Positive Solving (PS)	Social Emotional Competence (SEC)
Mean					
Percentile Score					
Discussion					

Item #	Year 1	Year 2	Occasionally	Frequently	Very Frequently	Skills for Learning	Situation Management	Positive Solving
1. I am confident in my abilities	0	1	2	3	4			
2. I keep trying when I am unsuccessful	0	1	2	3	4			
3. I cope well with stressful and tense situations	0	1	2	3	4			
4. I take steps to achieve goals	0	1	2	3	4			
5. I get along with different types of people	0	1	2	3	4			
6. I seek out additional knowledge or information	0	1	2	3	4			
7. I take care to do my best work	0	1	2	3	4			

secondSTEP
www.secondstep.org

LEARNING & the BRAIN 200

Effectiveness of Second Step

<http://www.cfchildren.org/second-step/research.aspx>

children.org

Research Findings

New Research Links Social-Emotional Learning and Bullying Prevention

Physical Aggression in Prevalent Early Literacy

LEARNING & the BRAIN 201

Universal Screening of Social-Emotional Skills

LEARNING & the BRAIN 202

The DESSA-mini

- The DESSA-mini allows for:
 - Universal screening
 - Determination of need for instruction
- Four equivalent 8-item forms
 - Ongoing Progress Monitoring
 - Completed in 1-2 minutes by teachers
 - Yields one score – Social-Emotional Total Score

DESSA mini

- DESSA mini normative group
 - Standardization data for Teacher Raters (N = 1,249)
 - Region: NE = 24.6%; South = 39.1%; Midwest = 22.3%; West = 14.0%
 - 50.8% Males
 - Grades Kindergarten through 8

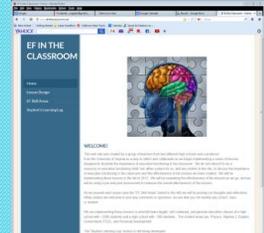
Four Forms of DESSA-mini

Fill Out a DESSAmini

Four Forms of DESSA-mini

Other Lessons from www.efintheclassroom.net

Emotional Control



www.efintheclassroom.net

Emotional Control

Question of the week: Are you in control?
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7QZUKH1E7yg>

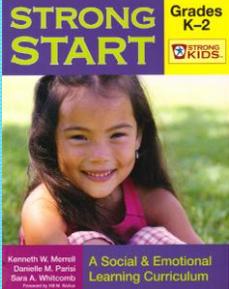
1. What is good about what he did?
2. What is bad about what he did?
3. How do you know if someone is overreacting?
4. How do you know if someone is underreacting?
5. What is our class plan for when we get upset?

Wrap-Up:
 In the learning log, reflect about emotions that get in your way. What are some "triggers" for your emotions?
 The form has 3 columns: What gets you upset? What do you do? What should you do?

LEARNING & the BRAIN 209

Ken Merrell Strong Start

➤ Strong Start includes Social & Emotional learning curriculum for Kindergarten through 12th grade students



STRONG START Grades K-2
 A Social & Emotional Learning Curriculum
 Kenneth W. Merrell, Dennis K. Parrett, Sara A. Whitcomb
 Foreword by Rick Stoltz

LEARNING & the BRAIN 211

Ken Merrell Strong Start

LESSON 4 When You're Angry

TEACHER NOTES

Purpose

- To teach students how to manage anger and handle most of handling anger

Objectives

- Students will accurately describe how their bodies feel when they are angry
- Students will accurately list symptoms for the word anger
- Students will identify situations that might make them angry
- Students will understand steps that help and think that help in handling their anger

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Handy student anger meter
- Block numbered transparency or chart paper
- Supplement 4.1 (overhead transparency)
- Supplement 4.2 (overhead transparency)
- Block from the Handout set for one of your choices
- Shaving cream
- Claypins
- String (for binder)

WORKSHEET: The Stop, Count, In, Out Strategy

STOP	When you feel a spark, stop what you are doing.		
COUNT	1 2 3 4	Count to 10.	
	5 6 7 8 9		
	10		
IN		Take a deep breath in.	
OUT		Breathe out.	

LEARNING & the BRAIN 212

Take Away Messages

➤ Social Emotional Skills are the result of EF and what the person has learned in all aspects of the environment

➤ Children CAN BE TAUGHT good, or bad, social emotional skills

LEARNING & the BRAIN 213

Time to Think and Talk

➤ We have covered the **EF as the foundation for social-emotional skills**

➤ TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS about

- What thoughts do you have about what has been presented
- Any surprises?
- Any concern?
- Any questions?

LEARNING & the BRAIN 214

Presentation Outline

- Comprehensive Model of EF
 - Historical Perspective
 - Definitions of Executive Function
- EF as Behavior
- EF as an Ability (an intelligence)
- EF as Social Emotional Skills
- Research about EF as ability, behavior, and SE
- **Think Smart!** -- EF Skills in the Classroom
 - More lesson plans for improving components of EF
- Conclusions

LEARNING & the BRAIN 215

Executive Function Behaviors, Intelligence, and Achievement test scores

LEARNING & the BRAIN

216

EF and Achievement (Naglieri & Rojahn, 2004)

Journal of Educational Psychology
2004, Vol. 96, No. 1, 73-83

Copyright 2004 by the American Psychological Association, Inc.
0022-0615/04/\$12.00 DOI: 10.1037/0022-0615.96.1.73

Construct Validity of the PASS Theory and CAS: Correlations With Achievement

Jack A. Naglieri and Johannes Rojahn
George Mason University

The relationship among Planning, Attention, Simultaneous, and Successive (PASS) processing scores of the Cognitive Assessment System (CAS) and the Woodcock-Johnson Revised Tests of Achievement (WJR) were examined with a sample of 1,559 students aged 5-17 years. Participants were part of the CAS standardization sample and closely represented the U.S. population on a number of important demographic variables. Pearson product-moment correlations between CAS Full Scale and the WJR-III Skills cluster was .71 for the Standard and .70 for the Basic CAS battery scores, providing evidence for the construct validity of the CAS. The CAS correlated with achievement as well if not better than tests of general intelligence. The amount of variance in the WJR scores the CAS accounted for increased with age between 5- to 13-year-olds. The PASS scale scores cumulatively accounted for slightly more of the WJR variance than the CAS Full Scale score.

There are many ways in which the validity of a theory of cognitive ability may be evaluated. Psychologists often attempt to relate information about a child's cognitive characteristics to that child's academic performance. Because cognitive ability and academic achievement share a significant portion of the same construct of knowledge, which is also assessed by vocabulary or word achievement. For instance, subtests like General Information are also included on individual achievement tests (e.g., the Peabody Individual Achievement Test—Revised; Markwardt, 1997). Similarly, the WISC-III Vocabulary and Similarities subtests require knowledge of words, which is also assessed by vocabulary or word achievement.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

217

EF and Achievement (Naglieri & Rojahn, 2004)

- Correlation between Executive Function (Planning + Attention) and overall achievement (Skills Cluster) = .51 (N = 1,559; $p < .001$)
- P&A added significantly to the prediction of achievement after Simultaneous and Successive scores were used in the regression equation

Scale	CAS Standard Battery subscales			
	Planning	Simultaneous	Successive	Attention
WJR subscales				
Letter-Word Identification	.47	.53	.49	.42
Passage Comprehension	.43	.50	.47	.39
Calculation	.50	.47	.36	.43
Applied Problems	.49	.60	.47	.44
Dictation	.50	.53	.49	.44
Word Attack	.41	.48	.44	.37
Reading Vocabulary	.42	.53	.50	.35
Quantitative Concepts	.51	.59	.49	.44
Proofing	.44	.48	.44	.40
WJR clusters				
Basic Reading	.48	.55	.50	.43
Basic Reading	.47	.54	.49	.42
Reading Comprehension	.44	.54	.50	.39
Basic Math	.54	.58	.45	.47
Basic Math	.55	.58	.46	.47
Math Reasoning	.49	.60	.47	.44
Basic Writing	.51	.55	.48	.45
Skills Cluster	.54	.62	.53	.48

Note. CAS = Cognitive Assessment System; WJR = Woodcock-Johnson Revised Tests of Achievement.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

218

EF and Achievement (Best, et al, 2011)

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect
Learning and Individual Differences
journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/lindif

Relations between executive function and academic achievement from ages 5 to 17 in a large, representative national sample

John R. Best ^{a,*}, Patricia H. Miller ^b, Jack A. Naglieri ^c

^a Department of Psychology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, 30602-3013, USA
^b Department of Psychology, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA, 94132, USA
^c Department of Psychology, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, 22030, USA

ARTICLE INFO **ABSTRACT**

Article history:
Received 25 May 2010
Received in revised form 20 January 2011
Accepted 23 January 2011
Available online xxxx

Keywords:
Executive function

This study examined age-related changes in complex executive function (EF) in a large, representative sample (N = 2000) aged 5 to 17 using the Cognitive Assessment System (CAS; Naglieri & Lee, 1997a). Relations between complex EF and academic achievement were examined on a sub-sample (N = 1195) given the Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Achievement-Revised (Woodcock & Johnson, 1989). Performance on the three complex EF tasks improved until at least age 16, although improvement slowed with increasing age and varied some across tasks. Moreover, the different developmental patterns in the correlations between completion time and accuracy provide clues to developmental processes. Examination of individual

LEARNING & the BRAIN

219

EF and Achievement (Best, et al, 2011)

- All Correlations Significant

Age	Letter-Word Identification			Passage Comprehension			Word Attack			Reading Vocabulary		
	MN	PC	PCn	MN	PC	PCn	MN	PC	PCn	MN	PC	PCn
5 (n=181)	.36**	.32**	.32**	.42**	.39**	.41**	.35**	.27**	.38**	.42**	.39**	.34**
6 (n=195)	.49**	.46**	.35**	.45**	.47**	.38**	.40**	.44**	.44**	.38**	.44**	.39**
7 (n=203)	.33**	.41**	.32**	.35**	.38**	.31**	.41**	.42**	.35**	.39**	.41**	.29**
8-9 (n=243)	.48**	.32**	.55**	.44**	.27**	.47**	.51**	.30**	.59**	.50**	.28**	.53**
10-11 (n=191)	.50**	.32**	.47**	.49**	.31**	.44**	.43**	.30**	.45**	.47**	.26**	.47**
12-13 (n=118)	.47**	.35**	.35**	.44**	.35**	.34**	.41**	.30**	.48**	.45**	.30**	.41**
14-15 (n=124)	.31**	.18	.43**	.30**	.21*	.43**	.32**	.25**	.40**	.42**	.21**	.37**
16-17 (n=140)	.36**	.34**	.40**	.41**	.33**	.40**	.46**	.41**	.51**	.51**	.40**	.47**

Note. MN = Matching Numbers; PC = Planned Codes; PCn = Planned Combinations
 $p < .05$ ** $p < .01$.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

220

EF, WISC-IV, CAS, Achievement

- Data from Sam Goldstein's evaluation center in Salt Lake City, UT
- Children given the WISC-IV (N = 43), CAS (N = 62), and the WJIII achievement (N = 58) as part of the typical test battery

Demographic	N	Sample					
		WISC-IV	WJ III ACH	WJ III ACH			
Gender	Male	39	43	29	47	46	42
	Female	24	19	14	12	12	12
	Bi-gender	1	1	1	1	1	1
Race/Ethnic Group	Asian	2	2	2	2	2	2
	White	55	49	38	44	52	49
	Other	4	6	2	4	7	5
	High school diploma or less	1	1	0	1	1	1
Parental Education Level	Some college or associate's degree	21	33	12	17	18	31
	Bachelor's degree or higher	18	10	26	40	34	26
Clinical indicators	ADHD	4	6	5	11	5	8
	Learning disabilities	24	39	15	34	20	34
Diagnostic or Educational Group	ASD	15	24	9	20	14	24
	ASD	7	11	5	11	7	12
	LD	3	4	3	7	3	5
	Other	4	6	3	7	5	8
Total	62	110	43	103	92	105	
Age M (SD)	10.6 (2.0)	10.2 (2.0)	10.3 (2.0)	10.3 (2.0)	10.3 (2.0)	10.3 (2.0)	

Note. ADHD = Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder; Anxiety = Anxiety Disorder; ASD = Autism Spectrum Disorder; LD = Learning Disorder; Mood = Mood Disorder.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

221

EF Behaviors (CEFI) & CAS

	WISC-IV				
	FS	VC	PR	WM	PS
CEFI					
Full Scale	.39	.44	.27	.30	.34

	CAS				
	FS	Plan	Sim	Att	Suc
CEFI					
Full Scale	.45	.49	.43	.37	.32

CEFI Scales	WJ-III Achievement Tests				
	Total	Broad Reading	Broad Math	Written Language	Broad Written Median
Full Scale	.51	.48	.49	.47	.49

Take Away Messages

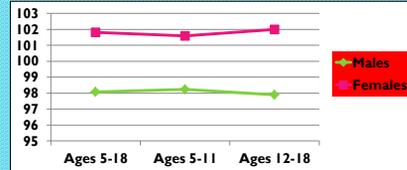
- EF behaviors are significantly correlated with scores from a nationally normed test of academic skills (WJ-III)
- EF behaviors are significantly correlated with all four PASS scales
- EF behaviors are mostly correlated with WISC-IV Verbal scale which requires a lot of knowledge

Sex Differences in Executive Function

CEFI Sex Differences: Parent Raters

➤ Girls are Smarter than Boys

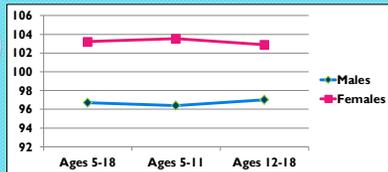
Parents	N	Mn	SD	N	Mn	SD	ES
Ages 5-18	700	98.1	14.9	699	101.8	15.0	-0.25
Ages 5-11	350	98.2	14.3	349	101.6	15.6	-0.22
Ages 12-18	350	97.9	15.4	350	102.0	14.4	-0.28



CEFI Sex Differences: Teacher Raters

➤ Girls are Smarter than Boys

Teachers	N	Mn	SD	N	Mn	SD	ES
Ages 5-18	700	96.7	14.4	700	103.2	15.0	-0.44
Ages 5-11	350	96.4	14.5	350	103.5	14.9	-0.49
Ages 12-18	350	97.0	14.4	350	102.9	15.0	-0.40



Sex Differences: Ability

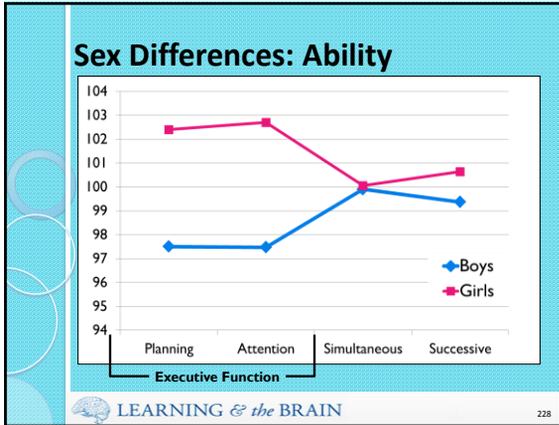
Journal of Educational Psychology, 2001, Vol. 91, No. 2, 436-437
 Copyright 2001 by the American Psychological Association, Inc. 0022-0601/01/\$12.00 DOI: 10.1037/0022-0601.91.2.436

Gender Differences in Planning, Attention, Simultaneous, and Successive (PASS) Cognitive Processes and Achievement

Jack A. Naglieri
 George Mason University

Johannes Rojahn
 Ohio State University

Gender differences in ability and achievement have been studied for some time and have been conceptualized along verbal, quantitative, and visual-spatial dimensions. Researchers recently have called for a theory-based approach to studying these differences. This study examined 1,100 boys and 1,100 girls who matched the U.S. population using the Planning, Attention, Simultaneous, Successive (PASS) cognitive-processing theory, built on the neuropsychological work of A. R. Luria (1973). Girls outperformed boys on the Planning and Attention scales of the Cognitive Assessment System by about 5 points ($d = .30$ and $.35$, respectively). Gender differences were also found for a subsample of 1,266 children on the Woodcock-Johnson Revised Tests of Achievement Proofing ($d = .33$), Letter-Word Identification ($d = .22$), and Dictation ($d = .22$). The results illustrate that the PASS theory offers a useful way to examine gender differences in cognitive performance.



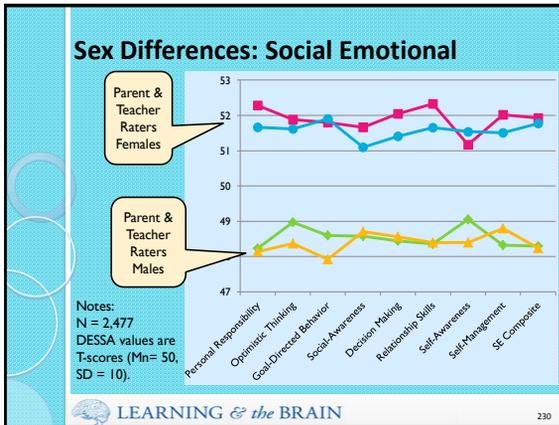
Sex Differences: Social Emotional

TABLE 3.6
Means, SDs, Ns, and Correlations for DESSA T-Scores by Gender

TEACHER RATES	Males (N = 102)		Females (N = 102)	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Personal Responsibility	48.23	9.98	49.51	10.28
Creative Thinking	48.97	10.14	49.77	10.28
Goal-Directed Behavior	48.40	10.07	49.21	10.28
Social Awareness	48.28	10.13	49.09	10.28
Decision Making	48.14	10.08	49.11	10.28
Relationship Skills	48.28	10.08	49.09	10.28
Self-Awareness	48.15	10.08	49.11	10.28
Self-Management	48.13	10.08	49.11	10.28
Social-Emotional Composite	48.20	10.09	49.23	10.28

DESSA Devereux Elementary Student Strength Assessment (DESSA, LeBuffe, Shapiro & Naglieri, 2009)

LEARNING & the BRAIN 229



Developmental Differences in Executive Function

LEARNING & the BRAIN 231

Developmental Changes in EF

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Learning and Individual Differences

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/lindif

Relations between executive function and academic achievement from ages 5 to 17 in a large, representative national sample

John R. Best^{a,*}, Patricia H. Miller^b, Jack A. Naglieri^c

^a Department of Psychology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA, 30602-3013, USA
^b Department of Psychology, San Francisco State University, San Francisco, CA, 94132, USA
^c Department of Psychology, Georgia Mason University, Atlanta, GA, 30303, USA

ARTICLE INFO

ABSTRACT

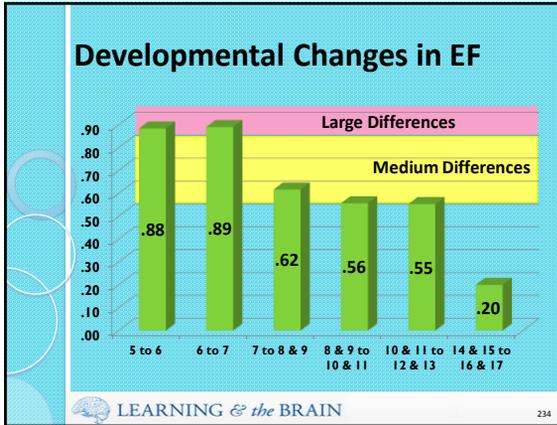
This study examined age-related changes in complex executive function (EF) in a large, representative sample (N = 2096) aged 5 to 17 using the Cognitive Assessment System (CAS; Naglieri & Lee, 1997a). Relations between complex EF and academic achievement were examined on a subsample (N = 1395) given the Woodcock-Johnson Tests of Achievement-Revised (Woodcock & Johnson, 1989). Performance on the three complex EF tasks improved until at least age 15, although improvement slowed with increasing age and varied some across tasks. Moreover, the different developmental patterns in the correlations between completion time and accuracy provide clear developmental processes. Examination of individual achievement subtests clarified the specific aspects of academic performance most related to complex EF. Finally, the correlation between complex EF and academic achievement varied across ages, but the developmental pattern of the strength of these correlations was remarkably similar for overall math and reading achievement, suggesting a domain-general relation between complex EF and academic achievement.

© 2011 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Developmental Changes in EF

- Best, et al (2011) reported means score differences between adjacent age groups of a large (N = 2, 036) nationally representative sample (CAS normative group)
- Results showed that EF does **not** develop consistently across the 5 year to 18 year age range
- Age differences were reported in effect sizes (.2 to .4 = small; .5 to .7 = medium; .8 and above = large)

LEARNING & the BRAIN 233



Developmental Changes in EF

- These developmental data suggest that instruction in EF Skills should be stressed when growth is most rapid, that is, during early elementary and middle school years
- Students need to be TOLD what EF is and how it can be used to help them learn, especially during the early years when growth in ABILITY isso that growth in BEHAVIOR and EMOTION follow

LEARNING & the BRAIN 235

Take Away Messages

- As a group, boys need more help developing Executive Function skills than girls
- Because of the rapid growth of EF skills in the early grades -- intervene ASAP

LEARNING & the BRAIN 236

Presentation Outline

- Comprehensive Model of EF
 - Historical Perspective
 - Definitions of Executive Function
- EF as Behavior
- EF as an Ability (an intelligence)
- EF as Social Emotional Skills
- Research about EF as ability, behavior, and SE
- **Think Smart!** -- EF Skills in the Classroom
 - More lesson plans for improving components of EF
- Conclusions

LEARNING & the BRAIN 237

Kryza Practical EF Instruction

Practical Strategies for Developing Executive Functioning Skills for ALL Learners in the Differentiated Classroom 29

Kathleen Kryza 5

It's the first week of school for Alicia, a middle school teacher in a large school district in Michigan. She's been prepping for the first days of school for weeks, getting her room ready, and planning lessons. Last week she attended staff development sessions to learn about the new district and state initiatives and mandates that must be followed this year. Starting tomorrow, she will be immersed for the next 180 school days with a full day's schedule of three different prep--seven 50-minute classes with an equal mix of students in each class. She can't imagine adding one more thing to her already overfull "To Do" list. But over the summer, Alicia read a book on teaching executive functioning skills to special needs learners. She really with the value in teaching these important skills to her most at-risk students, but when can she possibly find time to do this? And how? 6-17

Alicia, like many teachers, understands the importance of developing executive functioning skills in her students, but given the full schedule of required academic content she needs to teach...

According to Judy Willis, a neurologist turned middle school teacher and international educational consultant, "We can identify the practices that benefit all learners by looking at the skills..." 40-43

LEARNING & the BRAIN 238

Kryza et al (2011)

Intentional and Transparent

- YOU know WHY you are teaching what you are teaching (Intentional).
- STUDENTS know why they are learning what they are learning (Transparent).
- Talk the talk! Tell students:
 - What they are learning
 - Why it's important to learn
 - What strategies grow effective learners
 - Reflect on learning with your students
 - Notice and name how they learn and what strategies help them win the learning game.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 239

Kryza et al (2011)

Winning Formula for Success in Your Co-Taught Classroom

Mindsets plus **Skill Sets** equals **RESULTS!**

LEARNING & the BRAIN 240

Mindset Matters

- This work is about changing “HOW YOU DO WHAT YOU DO” (i.e. Executive Function)
- **Fixed mindset:**
 - Effort will not make a difference
 - You either get it or you don't.
- **Growth mindset:**
 - Dedication and hard work will pay off
 - A love of learning and a persistence is essential
 - Consistent effort makes a difference EVEN in the face of failure

LEARNING & the BRAIN 241

Kryza et al (2011)

- Activities that reveal students' mindset
- Questions that help the teacher draw out the students' feelings

The following are possible activities you could use to have students feel their mindsets (*Developing Growth Mindsets in the Inspiring Classroom*, Kryza, Stephens, & Duncan, 2011):

- **Take a Quiz** (linguistic or logical): Give students a surprise quiz on what they've been learning in your class.
- **Try Toothpick Puzzles** (logical): Have students try to solve a toothpick puzzle. Many examples and solutions at various levels can be found at: <http://www.madras.fife.sch.uk/departments/maths/toothpickworld/toothpick13s.html>.
- **Tie Knots** (visual/tactile): Provide rope and written directions with no pictures and have students try tying knots.

Reflection: After each activity, ask students to respond to the following questions:

- So, how did you feel before you started this activity? What were you saying to yourself?
- What did you feel and say to yourself during the activity?
- How did you feel and speak to yourself after the activity?

Students then categorize their comments into growth or fixed mindset categories.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 242

Kryza et al (2011)

- Guidelines for talking about mindset before, during and after working on a hard task

Before Learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today you might find there are some things that are new to you and you are going to get to grow from trying them. • Does this remind you of something you've done before? How can you use that experience to help you with this new learning? • Looking at today's work, what part do you think will be the most challenging for you? What can you do when learning gets to the GOOD part (the hard part) to help you continue learning?
During Learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What parts are going well? What parts are making you grow? • Why do you think this part is challenging for you? What do you need to help you? Do you need more information? More practice? A different way to practice? • Have you done something like this before? What did you do when it got hard? Can you do it again? • What do you know about yourself as a learner that can help you continue learning?
After Learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did you grow as a learner? • Did you learn something new about yourself and how you learn? • How can you use that in the future when something gets tough?

LEARNING & the BRAIN 243

EF Lessons for High School

LEARNING & the BRAIN 244

www.efintheclassroom.net

- Start with Awareness of thinking about thinking

LEARNING & the BRAIN 245

EF Lesson Plan

- *Presentation of the Theme* - Students are given a task to do or video to watch that provides a stimulus about the theme related to a specific executive functioning skill.
 - This activity and the resulting discussion will engage them in the learning process
- *Discussion* is facilitated by the teacher – This means getting the students to think about the message
 - Teacher encourages a discussion about the theme (what it means, if it's important, how might this help you do better, etc).
 - The teacher could present or ask the students to provide other examples related to the theme
- *Reflection Period* –
 - The teacher presents a summary of what was said and what was learned.
 - The students might make an entry in their EF DIARY about what they learned
- After this session, the students should be reminded about the theme whenever appropriate

EF Lesson Plan Logistics

1. The EF sessions cover a theme about how to think when working in or out of the classroom
2. Seat students so that conversation will be facilitated (e.g., in a circle)
3. 30 minute sessions should be interactive

EF Lesson Plan Logistics

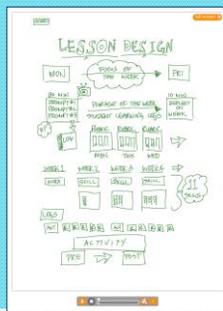
1. At the start of the week, teachers *facilitate* the discussion beginning with some kind of an illustration of a *theme*.
2. The discussion should emphasize the theme which the students are reminded about from that point on.
3. The theme can be entered into a notebook and/or placed somewhere visible in the classroom
4. At the end of the week there is another discussion about the *theme* and how it influenced them

EF Lesson Plan Themes

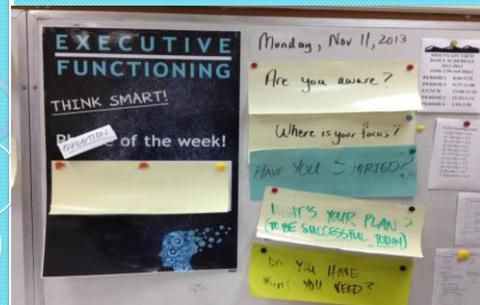
- Attention
- Flexibility
- Inhibition
- Initiation
- Self-Monitoring
- Working Memory
- Organization
- Planning
- Emotional Regulation

Structure of the lessons

- Each topic is discussed for one week
- Monday – class lesson
- Tues-Thurs reminders
- Friday – class reflection



EF Posters in the Class



Introductory Lesson: "Are you Aware"

- Ask for volunteers to NOT look at the video and report what word they hear



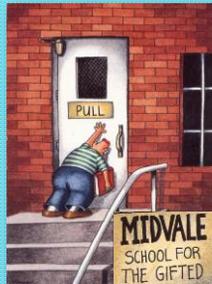
Time to Think and Talk

- Task:
- Time: 2 minutes
- This lesson is designed to help students be more observant
- When are you doing without being aware of subtle things your seeing?
- How does this fit to EF?

START	120 seconds left
	100 seconds left
	80 seconds left
	60 seconds left
	40 seconds left
	20 seconds left
STOP	

EF and Gifted/Talented Students

- Why do we see gifted students with low EF?
 - Because of the methods used to find them
- How do we help this student at the school for the gifted?



Using EF to Help with Attention

Frankie

Severe Attention Problem with poor academics and anxiety

Frankie – Attention

- Referred by parents (at age 11) after a history of reading difficulties and emerging problems with low self esteem
- Ability
 - Cognitive Assessment System
- Achievement
 - WJ-R, WRAT-3, PPVT-III
- Behavioral/Emotional
 - Devereux Scales of Mental Disorders
- Self Concept
 - Bracken Multidimensional Self Concept Scale



Frankie

- High level of anxiety
 - he was too anxious to look closely at the words, and he would rather get the task completed and move on.
 - Frankie could not attend to the details of the sequence of letters for correct spelling, and the order of sound-symbol associations



Figure 3.4. Frankie's self-portrait

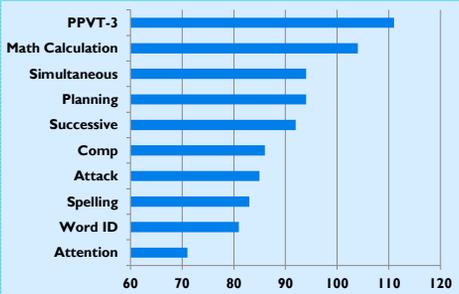
LEARNING & the BRAIN 258

Frankie

Tests	Score	%tile
Letter-Word Id	81	10
Passage Comp	86	17
Word Attack	85	16
Spelling	83	13
Calculation	104	60
PPVT-III	111	82

LEARNING & the BRAIN 259

Frankie



Test	Score
PPVT-3	111
Math Calculation	104
Simultaneous	90
Planning	90
Successive	90
Comp	85
Attack	85
Spelling	83
Word ID	81
Attention	75

LEARNING & the BRAIN 260

Frankie

- **Attention Handouts**
 - Teaching Students About Attention (p.58)
 - Overcoming Problems with Inattention (p. 67)
 - Improving Attention (p. 76)
- These handouts encourage the teacher and Frankie's parents to help him understand strategies for overcoming his attention weakness (GOOD EF)

LEARNING & the BRAIN 261

What Should Teachers & Parents do?

How to Teach Students to Attend

Think smart and look at the details!



The first step in teaching children about their own abilities is to explain that they have many different types of abilities and that Attention is one of them. They also need to be aware of when their attention is focused and they are resisting distractions, as well as when it is divided among too many things, which leaves them unfocused and overloaded. In Figure 1 (which also appears in the PASS poster on the CD), we provide a fast and simple message: "Think smart and look at the details!" During appropriate times during the day, remind students to closely attend to information being discussed. We need to teach children to approach *all* their work with an understanding of how well they are focused on the details and resisting distractions in their environment. Throughout the day, the teacher should

1. Teach children to be aware of their level of attention and resistance to distraction.
2. Encourage children by asking: "Are you able to focus?" or "Are you getting distracted?"
3. Remind the students that Attention is necessary for reading, writing, and arithmetic, as well as in sports, playing a musical instrument, driving a car, and so forth.
4. Teach children that they may have to modify their environment so that they can attend better.
5. Remind students that learning requires attention to detail and resisting distractions.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Frankie

Help Frankie use strategies (EF) to manage his attention problem

Overcoming Problems with Inattention

Attention is the process of paying close to focus (bring) or particular attention while ignoring others. Throughout a school day, a student must pay attention to the teacher, the instructional being given, what must be done, and what specific materials are needed, while ignoring their students being, students playing outside the window, and a car going by in the lot. Attention involves a child's selection of how or things that are new and need basic attention to instant signs and sounds. Focus and attention is direct concentration on something, such as a specific math problem. Sustained attention involves the resistance to distraction, such as listening to the teacher and not the cat in the hall. Sustained attention is contrasted from one time.

Some children have difficulty with focus because of learning disabilities. These include: If the description of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), predominantly inattentive type (attention deficit disorder), (CDC, 2003). Children with the inattentive form of ADHD can often have trouble with the predominantly hyperactive-inattentive type of ADHD, which is described by Swanson and Morley (1998) as a type of the development of inattention, disordered self-regulation, and poor organization over time. Children with ADHD, hyperactive-inattentive type cannot control their behavior and have attention problems that are related to a lack of the process planning on the Cognitive Assessment System (CAS; Naglieri, 1996).

How to Help a Child Overcome Problems with Inattention

The first step is to help the child understand the nature of his or her attention problems, including:

1. Concrete signs of inattention, resistance to direction, and control of attention
2. Recognition of how Attention affects daily functioning
3. Recognition that the child can be successful
4. Basic elements of the control program

Second, teachers and parents can help the child improve his or her motivation and persistence:

1. Provide success in small steps
2. Create success at school and at home
3. Allow for non-response to tests
4. Encourage reading whenever possible
5. Teach basic organizational skills
6. Help the child to define goals and priorities
7. Assess the child's knowledge of problems
8. Encourage the child to create alternative solutions
9. Teach the child to use a correct test strategy (Peters & Wadsworth, 1995).

LEARNING & the BRAIN 263

Frankie - Intervention

- Level I: Help child understand the deficit
 - Attention, resistance to distraction,
 - Recognition of how the deficit affects daily functioning
- Level II: Improve Motivation & Persistence
 - Promote success via small steps
 - Ensure success at school and at home
 - Allow for oral responses to tests to circumvent reading when possible

Frankie - Intervention

- Teach strategies for approaching tasks
 - Define tasks accurately
 - Assess child's knowledge of the problem
 - Consider ALL possible solutions
 - Evaluate value of all possible solutions
 - Checking work carefully is required
 - Correct your own test strategy (see Pressley & Woloshyn, 1995, p. 140).

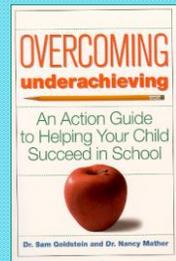
Frankie - Intervention

- Discourage passivity / encourage independence
 - Teacher should only provide as much assistance as is needed
 - Discourage exclusive use of teacher's solutions
 - Child needs to correct own work
 - Child needs to learn to be self-reliant (Scheid, 1993).

Frankie - Intervention

Improve resilience and self-esteem

- Goldstein & Mather (1998) suggest that the child
 - have a significant adult who is positive and supportive
 - tutor younger children
 - know that everyone makes mistakes
 - become good at some things

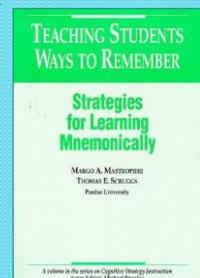


Frankie - Intervention

- Level III: Problem-Solving Strategies
 1. Teach strategies that increase inhibition and organization
 - encourage the use of date books
 - teach the child to count to 10 before answering
 2. Teach strategies to increase the level of alertness
 3. Teach other relevant strategies
 - mnemonic devices (Mastropieri & Scruggs, 1991)
 - reading or math strategies (Pressley & Woloshyn, 1995)

Mastropieri & Scruggs (1991)

- Mnemonics are strategies:
 - for learning
 - for improving memory
- Topics include:
 - vocabulary, science, reading, spelling, math



Frankie

Spelling

- Strategies for Spelling (pp.102–103)
- Segmenting Words for Reading/Decoding and Spelling (p. 89)

These are designed to help him perform better when tasks require a lot of Successive processing.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

270

Frankie - Use Planning Strength

Strategies for Spelling

Spelling is an activity that requires the recall of specific letters in order and combining sounds with letter groups so that words can be recognized. Good spelling is a skill of memory to have to correctly spell words even when the words are difficult or unpronounceable. Often, spelling lists are given and students write the words over and over or write them alphabetically in order to make spelling easier for these students, give them a rule or strategy that includes various rules for spelling. A child who knows or has access to various spelling rules is likely to be able to spell many words correctly, rather than just the few that have been memorized. This intervention is intended to help students use certain rules or plans to spell words, particularly ones that are commonly misspelled or are spelled in a way other than how they sound.

When a child uses a rule or plan to spell, the answer is obtained by thinking using the plan or rule, rather than just relying on remembering the string of letters. For example, a student may want to spell *avenue* but may not be sure of the order of the letters. If the child is taught the rule "l before a vowel after c," then he or she is more likely to spell the word correctly. This strategy changes the task from one that demands Successive processing to one that involves Planning.

How to Teach Strategies for Spelling

Following are a number of rules and strategies for spelling words. This list is not intended to be exhaustive, but it includes many of the major rules used for spelling. These rules may vary, and the more memorable they are for the student, the more likely they are to be used successfully. (Memorics for Spelling handout by 10/1) for additional interventions.) Students also need to understand that these are rules of thumb, and in some cases the rules do not work for every word.

- Write letters before an except after a (e.g., *avoid, perceive, field, believe, nickel, sleep*).
- The letter *i* is always written with a vowel sound (e.g., *live*).
- The vowel *y*, not *i*, is used at the end of English words (e.g., *my*).
- The majority of vowels in English form their sound by always ending in a final *e*.
- Knows that with *ai*, *oi*, *oi*, *oi*, *oi*, and *oi* form their sound by adding *ie* (e.g., *glacier, choice, noise, bushes, justice, position, forever*). Some exceptions include *achiever, pioneer, temperance, and zone*.
- To form plurals for nouns that end in a consonant and *y*, change *y* to *i* and add *ies* (e.g., *babies, justices, puppies*).

Rules for Spelling

- When a two-syllable word ends with a vowel and a consonant pair (final syllable), double the first consonant when adding a vowel suffix (e.g., *hitting*).
- Words with a silent final *e* are written without the final *e* when adding a vowel suffix (e.g., *having, writing, sleeping*).
- After a single vowel at the end of a one-syllable word, the *i*, *e*, or *u* is doubled (e.g., *bit, put, fun*).
- The letter *r* never follows the letter *a* (e.g., *boat*).
- All *s* written with one *l* when added to another syllable (e.g., *after*).
- Other added to another syllable, *ll* and *ll* are written with one *l*.
- The letter *r* never *l*, is used for the "r" sound at the beginning of a word.
- Words beginning with a vowel and ending in *l* often lose the *l* when added to another syllable (e.g., *disassemble, subcommittee*).
- There are some exceptions to the general rule (e.g., *licensing, travel*).
- Only one word ends in *ies* (e.g., *chiefs*). Only three words end in *oids* (e.g., *proceed, succeed*). All other words ending with this sound use *ies* or *oids*.

Some Other Strategies

- Take the word apart. Break down words into their component parts at the word complex. Write it spelled correctly on paper. Then put the letters in a pattern of two or more pencils for the same thing. Then practice. You get the correct spelling by dividing the word into parts.
- Identify prefixes. A prefix is a letter or group of letters at the beginning of a word (e.g., *prefix*). Imagine that there is a hyphen between the *v* and *o* and you can generally see the correct spelling. Prefixes consist of one or more syllables. A word that is combined with the prefix does not word begins with *v*, but only uses a single *v* if begins with a *v*.
- Identify suffixes. When a word has a suffix (e.g., a letter or group of letters) that is added to the end of a word, it is called a suffix. Do not double an *e* after an *l* (e.g., *canceling, class, never, heartless*).

Frankie - Use Planning Strength

Segmenting Words for Reading/Decoding and Spelling

Decoding a written word requires the person to make sense out of printed letters and words and to translate letter sequences into sounds. This demands understanding the sounds that letters represent and how letters work together to make sounds. Sometimes words can be segmented into parts for easier and faster reading. The word into a good example because it contains two words that a child might already know: *in* and *and*. Segmenting words can be a helpful strategy for reading as well as spelling.

How to Teach Segmenting Words

Segmenting words is an effective strategy to help students read and spell. By dividing the words into groups, students also learn about how words are constructed and how the parts are related to one another. Students should be taught that words can be broken down into segments or chunks. The teacher should present the following methods in a direct and explicit manner:

- Take the word apart. Break down the word into its component parts or syllables. For example, look at the word *independ*. It includes the main word shape with the prefix *in* and the ending *and*. Knowing that the main word shape has no and of added makes it easier to recognize than to try and sound out *in-in-pen-d-and*.
- Identify prefixes. A prefix is a letter or group of letters at the beginning of a word. When a word has a prefix, imagine that there is a hyphen between the word and the prefix, and you can usually see the main word. For example, *independ* includes the prefix *in* and the word shape that are already put together.
- Identify suffixes. Similarly, when a word has a suffix (e.g., a letter or group of letters at the end), you can often use a strategy similar to the prefix strategy. Just imagine a hyphen between the word and the suffix (e.g., *heartless*).

LEARNING & the BRAIN

272

What Should Teachers & Parents do?

How to Teach Students to Attend

Think smart and look at the details!

Figure 1. A graphic that reminds students to focus on information being discussed.

The first step in teaching children about their own abilities is to explain that they have many different types of abilities and that Attention is one of them. They also need to be aware of when their attention is focused and they are resisting distractions, as well as when it is divided among too many things, which leaves them unfocused and overloaded. In Figure 1 (which also appears in the PASS poster on the CD), we provide a fast and simple message: "Think smart and look at the details!" During appropriate times during the day, remind students to closely attend to information being discussed. We need to teach children to approach all their work with an understanding of how well they are focused on the details and resisting distractions in their environment. Throughout the day, the teacher should:

1. Teach children to be aware of their level of attention and resistance to distraction.
2. Encourage children by asking: "Are you able to focus?" or "Are you getting distracted?"
3. Remind the students that Attention is necessary for reading, writing, and arithmetic, as well as in sports, playing a musical instrument, driving a car, and so forth.
4. Teach children that they may have to modify their environment so that they can attend better.
5. Remind students that learning requires attention to detail and resisting distractions.

LEARNING & the BRAIN

275

Overcoming Attention Problems

Overcoming Problems with Inattention

Adolescents with attention problems have trouble focusing on a particular stimulus when competing others. Throughout a school day, a student must pay attention to the teacher, the instructions being given, and materials used, and also pay attention to the teacher, the instructions being given, and materials used, and also pay attention to the teacher, the instructions being given, and materials used.

How to Help a Child Overcome Problems with Inattention

1. Concepts such as attention, resistance to distraction, and control of attention.
2. Recognition that the child can become more focused.
3. Basic elements of the control program.

Parents, teachers and parents can help the child improve his or her motivation and performance:

- 1. Provide consistent and small goals.
- 2. Provide consistent and clear instructions.
- 3. Allow for self-references to goals.
- 4. Encourage positive self-talk.
- 5. Teach skills for organizing tasks.
- 6. Allow the child to help with instructions.
- 7. Address the child's knowledge of problems.
- 8. Encourage the child's knowledge of possible solutions.
- 9. Teach the child to use a correct task strategy (Peters & Robinson, 1995).

LEARNING & the BRAIN

274

Overcoming Attention Problems

Level I: Help child understand the deficit

- Attention, resistance to distraction,
- Recognition of how the deficit affects daily functioning

LEARNING & the BRAIN

275

Overcoming Attention Problems

- Level II: Improve Motivation & Persistence
 - Promote success via small steps
 - Ensure success at school and at home
 - Allow for oral responses to tests to circumvent reading when possible

Overcoming Attention Problems

- Teach rules for approaching tasks
 - Define tasks accurately
 - Assess child's knowledge of the problem
 - Consider ALL possible solutions
 - Evaluate value of all possible solutions
 - Checking work carefully is required
 - Correct your own test strategy (see Pressley & Woloshyn, 1995, p. 140).

Overcoming Attention Problems

- Discourage passivity / encourage independence
 - Teacher should only provide as much assistance as is needed
 - Discourage exclusive use of teacher's solutions
 - Child needs to correct own work
 - Child needs to learn to be self-reliant (Scheid, 1993)
 - Frankie became very self-reliant – VERY IMPORTANT as shown in the next slide

Teach Self-reliance

- Students with any kind of learning challenge and many without any limitations need to be self-reliant
- Show the Stuck on the Escalator video
- Discuss what the message is with the students

Time to Think and Talk

- Task:

START	120 seconds left
	100 seconds left
	80 seconds left
	60 seconds left
	40 seconds left
	20 seconds left
	STOP
- Time: 2 minutes
- Discuss
 - Why were the people unable to do something?
 - What life experiences likely made them rely on others to fix their problem?

Stuck on the Escalator

- "A student in 4th period (we are doing the EF lessons in that class) was working in her Chemistry class (that teacher is NOT doing the EF lessons) spontaneously said, "Man, I am stuck on the escalator" (a phrase of the week) even though that phrase is not used in Chem. I took this as evidence that the (cuing) skills being learned in one class are transferring to another. It is encouraging."

Other Lessons from www.efintheclassroom.net

www.Efintheclassroom.net

Research support?



LEARNING & the BRAIN 282

www.efintheclassroom.net

Planning Lesson

Phrase of the week: What is your plan?

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BQLCZOG202k>

1. What had to happen so that the people could dance together in this video?
2. What are the parts of a good plan?
3. How do you know if a plan is any good?
4. What should you do if a plan isn't working?
5. How do we use planning in this class?

Go to student learning log and create a plan for the week.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 283

Planning

Teaching Students About Planning

How Learning Depends on Planning Ability

The purpose of education is certainly to provide students with knowledge and skills, but the question has to be asked: how do we best teach them to learn? To answer that question, we must first understand the nature of learning. Learning is not a simple process. It is a complex activity that involves the student's ability to take in new information and use it to solve all types of problems. When we teach our students to become strategic, self-reliant, reflective, and flexible learners, we are teaching them a method called Cognitive Strategy Instruction (Schmidt, 1983), and this is an effective method.

When reading, and especially when obtaining meaning from text, the student must plan an approach to processing the information that is presented. This involves applying strategies to recognize the important from the less important part of the text, concentrate on the main, set realistic, and self-check as needed. Students who are good at setting objectives that guide their reading are successful in reading. Students who are good at setting objectives that guide their reading are successful in reading. Students who are good at setting objectives that guide their reading are successful in reading. Students who are good at setting objectives that guide their reading are successful in reading. This is also sometimes referred to as metacognition, problem solving, strategic behavior, or a self-regulated learning style. When we give cognitive strategy instruction, we are teaching students to think about what they are doing so that they can be more successful.

Importantly, these descriptions of how to learn, and the cognitive strategy instruction approach in general, are descriptions of the learning process, not the cognitive processing itself. Called "planning" in this book, use the Planning Instructional Strategy (PIS) in order to help students be more successful, we must teach them to be more planful.

How to Teach Planning

The first step in teaching children to be more strategic, self-reliant, reflective, and flexible learners is to help them understand what a plan is and how to use it. In Figure 1, which also appears in the PIS3 section on the CD, we provide a text and simple illustration. These are used as a subject for the student's planning strategy. In specific academic areas, such as spelling, writing, math (problem solving, science, and so forth), or that we

LEARNING & the BRAIN 284

Planning

Planning Facilitation for Math Calculation

Math calculation is a complex activity that involves recalling basic math facts, following procedures, working carefully, and checking one's work. Math calculation requires a careful (i.e., planful) approach to follow all of the necessary steps. Children who are good at math calculation can move on to more difficult math concepts and problem solving with greater ease than those who are having problems in this area. For children who have trouble with math calculation, a technique that helps them approach the task planfully is likely to be useful. Planning facilitation is such a technique.

Planning facilitation helps students develop useful strategies to carefully complete math problems through discussion and shared discovery. It encourages students to think about how they solve problems, rather than just think about whether their answers are correct. This helps them develop careful ways of doing math.

How to Teach Planning Facilitation

Planning facilitation is provided in three 10-minute time periods: 1) 10 minutes of math, 2) 10 minutes of discussion, and 3) 10 more minutes of math. These steps can be described in more detail:

Step 1: The teacher should provide math worksheets for the students to complete in the first 10-minute session. This gives the children exposure to the problems and ways to solve them. The teacher gives each child a worksheet and says, "Here is a math worksheet for you to do. Please try to get as many of the problems correct as you can. You will have 10 minutes." Slight variations on this instruction are okay, but do not give any additional information.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 285

JOURNAL OF LEARNING DISABILITIES
VOLUME 33, NUMBER 6, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2001, PAGES 591-597

Effectiveness of a Cognitive Strategy Intervention in Improving Arithmetic Computation Based on the PASS Theory

Jack A. Naglieri and Deanne Johnson

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to determine if an instruction designed to facilitate planning, given by teachers to their class as a group, would have differential effects depending on the specific Planning, Attention, Simultaneous, Successive (PASS) cognitive characteristics of each child. A cognitive strategy instruction that encouraged planning was provided to the group of 19 students with learning disabilities and mild mental impairments. All students completed math worksheets during 7 baseline and 14 intervention sessions. During the intervention phase, students engaged in self-reflection and verbalization of strategies about how the arithmetic computation worksheets should be completed. The sample was sorted into one experimental and four control groups after the experiment was completed. There were four groups with a cognitive weakness in each PASS scale from the Cognitive Assessment System and one group with no cognitive weakness. The results showed that children with a cognitive weakness in Planning improved considerably (large effect size of 1.4), in contrast to those with a cognitive weakness in Attention (small effect size of 0.3), Simultaneous weakness (slight deterioration and effect size of 0.2), Successive weakness (medium effect size of 0.4), and no cognitive weakness (small effect size of .2). These data showed that children with a Planning weakness benefited from the instruction designed to help them be more planful. Those children who received the planning-based instruction who were not low planning did not show the same level of improvement.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 286

Children with PASS Profiles

- 21 children with LD and mild mental impairments
- Teachers followed Planning Facilitation method described by Naglieri and Gottling (1997, 1997)
- Students were given instruction that facilitated the use of Planning

LEARNING & the BRAIN 287

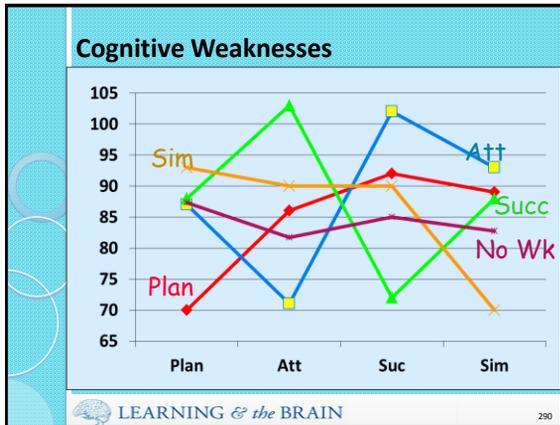
Illustration of a Math Worksheet Used in this Study.

Name:	Page 1	2	12	5	1	2
Date:		2	12	14	10	3
		+	+	+	+	+
988	98,923	7,344	5	6	3	3
- 335	287	- 3,740	- 5	- 13	- 3	- 5
						26
15	50	154				
X 1	X 2	X 68	5	18	24	25
			-	-	-	-
864	99,979	9,424	11	1	3	3
+ 192	+ 241	+ 6,430	11	5	6	3
						9
83,052	71,085	81,747	9	9	7	7
- 44,247	24,408	- 12,688	9	13	11	11
						9
			3	10	4	1
1304	934	1918	5	14	9	6
X 39	X 533	X 767				7

Children with PASS Profiles

- Naglieri & Johnson (1998)
 - Seven 10-minute Baseline sessions
 - Fourteen 10-minute Intervention sessions
 - Children completed math computation worksheets that came from the curriculum
 - Children with a cognitive weakness in each of the PASS areas were identified
 - Cognitive Weakness = significant PASS ipsative score *and* the weakness must be a score < 90.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 289



Children with PASS Profiles

	# Correct Baseline	Intervention	% Change	Effect Size
Plan				
Sim				
Att				
Suc	26	29	11	0.2
NoCW	26	29	11	0.2

Note: Total number correct for all 7 sessions. 7 baseline, 14 intervention sessions (intervention number correct was weighted by .5). The % change = (Int - Base) / Base. Effect sizes are averages across subjects using (mean Int - mean Base) / SD baseline.

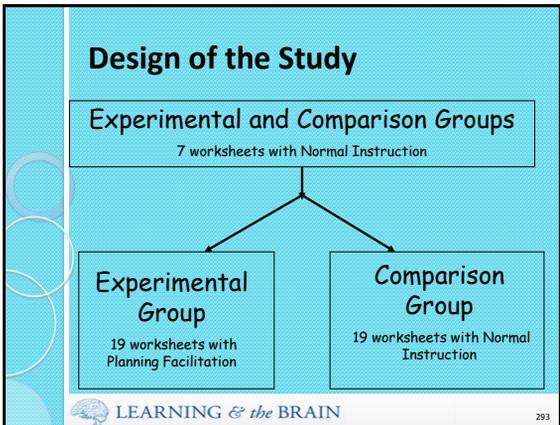
LEARNING & the BRAIN 291

A Cognitive Strategy Instruction to Improve Math Calculation for Children With ADHD and LD: A Randomized Controlled Study

Jackie S. Iseman¹ and Jack A. Naglieri¹

Abstract
The authors examined the effectiveness of cognitive strategy instruction (Successful) given by special education teachers to students with ADHD. The experimental group were exposed to a brief cognitive strategy instruction, development and application of effective planning for mathematical computation standard math instruction. Standardized tests of cognitive processes and students completed math worksheets throughout the experimental phase. Johnson Tests of Achievement, Third Edition, Math Fluency and Wechsler Numerical Operations were administered pre- and post-intervention, and follow-up. Large pre-post effect sizes were found for students in the experimental group (0.85 and 0.26), Math Fluency (1.17 and 0.09), and Numerical Operations (1.17 and 0.09). At 1 year follow-up, the experimental group continued to outperform the comparison group. Students with ADHD evidenced greater improvement in math worksheets (which measured the skill of generalizing learned strategies to other situations) when provided the PASS-based cognitive strategy instruction.

LEARNING & the BRAIN 293



Instructional Sessions

- Math lessons were organized into "instructional sessions" delivered over 13 consecutive days
- Each instructional session was 30-40 minutes
- Each instructional session was comprised of three segments as shown below

10 minutes	10-20 minutes	10 minutes
10 minute math worksheet	Planning Facilitation or Normal Instruction	10 minute math worksheet

Normal Instruction and Planning Facilitation Sessions

- Normal Instruction
 - 10 minute math worksheet
 - 10 - 20 of math instruction
 - 10 minute math worksheet
- Planning Facilitation
 - 10 minute math worksheet
 - 10 minutes of planning facilitation
 - 10 minute math worksheet

Planning Strategy Instruction

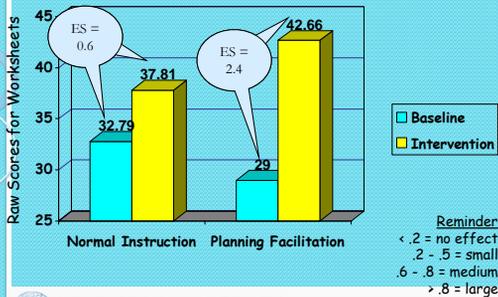
- Teachers facilitated discussions to help students become more self-reflective about use of strategies
- Teachers asked questions like:
 - What was your goal?
 - Where did you start the worksheet?
 - What strategies did you use?
 - How did the strategy help you reach your goal?
 - What will you do again next time?
 - What other strategies will you use next time?

Student Plans

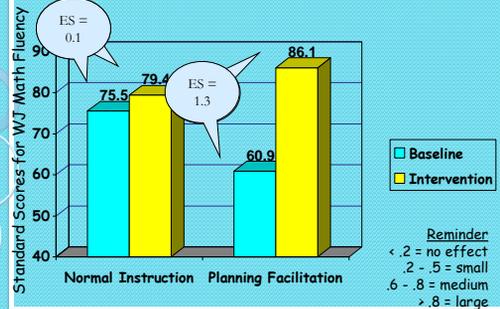
- "My goal was to do all of the easy problems on every page first, then do the others."
- "I do the problems I know, then I check my work."
- "I do them (the algebra) by figuring out what I can put in for X to make the problem work."
- "I did all the problems in the brain-dead zone first."
- "I try not to fall asleep."



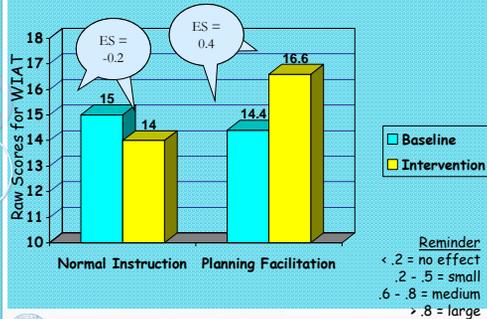
Worksheet Means and Effect Sizes for the Students with ADHD



WJ Math Fluency Means and Effect Sizes for the Students with ADHD

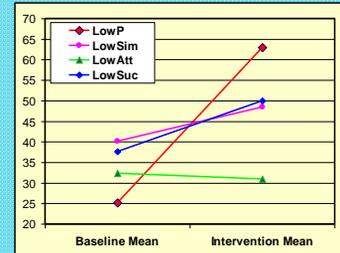


WIAT Numerical Operation Means and Effect Sizes for Students with ADHD



Iseman (2005)

- Baseline Intervention means by PASS profile
- Different response to the same intervention



One Year Follow-up

At 1-year follow-up, 27 of the students were retested on the WJ-III ACH Math Fluency subtest as part of the school's typical yearly evaluation of students. This group included 14 students from the comparison group and 13 students from the experimental group. The results indicated that the improvement of students in the experimental group ($M = 16.08$, $SD = 19$, $d = 0.85$) was significantly greater than the improvement of students in the comparison group ($M = 3.21$, $SD = 18.21$, $d = 0.09$).

Instructional Implications

- Planning Strategy Instruction is easily implemented in the classroom and can be used to improve Executive Functioning
- The method yields substantial results within a minimal of time (10 half-hour sessions over 10 days)
- Planning Strategy Instruction can be applied in math as well as other content areas (e.g., reading comprehension)

EF and Reading Comprehension

Journal of Psychological Assessment
2005, 21, 282-289

PLANNING FACILITATION AND READING COMPREHENSION: INSTRUCTIONAL RELEVANCE OF THE PASS THEORY

Frederick A. Haddad
Kyrene School District, Tempe, Arizona

Y. Evie Garcia
Northern Arizona University

Jack A. Naglieri
George Mason University

Michelle Grinditch, Ashley McAndrews, Jane Eubanks
Kyrene School District, Tempe, Arizona

The purpose of this study was to evaluate whether instructional designed to facilitate planning would have differential benefits on reading comprehension depending on the specific Planning, Attention, Simultaneous, and Successive (PASS) cognitive characteristics of each child. A sample of 45 fourth-grade general education children was sorted into three groups based on each PASS scale profile from the Cognitive Assessment System

instructional level was determined, a cognitive strategy instruction intervention was conducted. The children completed a reading comprehension posttest at their respective instructional levels after the intervention. Results showed that children with a Planning weakness ($n = 13$) benefited substantially (effect size of 1.52) from the instruction designed to facilitate planning. Children with no weakness ($n = 21$; effect size = .52) or a

Planning Facilitation & Reading

- 45 fourth grade general education children occurred
- The children completed a reading comprehension pre and posttest at their respective instructional levels
- The sample was sorted into one experimental
 - a weakness in planning group
- Two contrast groups
 - a weakness in successive processing
 - and no PASS weakness

EF and Reading Comprehension

- Haddad et al., (2003) helped children see the value of strategies when doing a reading comprehension task

The classroom teacher led the two 30-minute Planning Facilitation intervention sessions. The teacher initiated discussion for the first 5 minutes, asking six different children to describe the procedure during the reading pretest. The procedure was recalled and presented accurately by the children. Next, the teacher led the remainder of each intervention by saying, "This Friday each of you will read another passage and answer questions about it the same way you did the first time. I want you to think about how you can answer more questions correctly." The teacher facilitated discussion that encouraged the children to consider ways to be more successful but made no direct statements such as "That is correct" or "Remember to use that strategy," nor did the teacher provide any direct reading instruction.

EF and Reading Comprehension

- Teachers helped children reflect on how they did the task

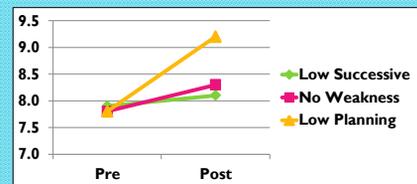
The role of the teacher was to help the children reflect on how they completed the reading comprehension task and to help clarify what was said and encourage self-reflection. The teacher used the following probes when appropriate: "Talk about how you completed them. Why did you do it that way? What can be done to get more correct? What else did you notice about the questions? What will you do next time?" The children made responses during the two intervention sessions as follows: "Read slower to remember better. Think back in your head. Try to remember important parts. Read slower and get it in your mind. Don't get distracted. Read the story more carefully. Think of the best answer. Answer from words in the story. Think back. Try to remember in your eyes. Listen to what the story is about as I read."

Planning Facilitation & Reading

- The following probes were used by the author when deemed appropriate.
 - Talk about how you completed them.
 - Why did you do it that way?
 - What can be done to get more correct?
 - What else did you notice about the questions?
 - What will you do next time?

Planning Facilitation & Reading

	Pre	Post	Effect Size
Low Successful	7.9	8.1	0.1
No Weakness	7.8	8.3	0.4
Low Planning	7.8	9.2	1.6



Cognitive Strategy = EF Instruction

- A strategy is a procedure that the learner uses to perform academic tasks
- Using a strategy means the child thinks about 'how you do what you do'
- Successful learners use many strategies.
- Some of these strategies include visualization, verbalization, making associations, chunking, questioning, scanning, using mnemonics, sounding out words, and self-checking and monitoring.

EF Instruction

LOOK INSIDE!

Promoting Executive Function in the Classroom (What Works for Special-Needs Learners) (Paperback)
 with Melissa Ellis (Author)

List Price: \$36.00
 Price: \$30.45 & this item ships for FREE with Super Saver Shipping. [Details](#)
 You Save: \$4.55 (13%)

In Stock.
 Ship from and sold by Amazon.com. Gift-wrap available.

Want it delivered Tuesday, November 29? Order it in the next 29 hours and 9 minutes, and choose **One-Day Shipping** at checkout. [Details](#)

Ordering for Christmas? To ensure delivery by December 24, choose **FREE Super Saver Shipping** at checkout. [See details about holiday shipping.](#)

8 days from \$11.00 (2) saved from \$17.00
 FREE Two-Day Shipping for Students. [Learn more](#)

Book: Add back your copy for \$10.00

Cognitive Strategy = EF Instruction



Raising a Thinking Child: Help Your Young Child to Resolve Everyday Conflicts and Get Along with Others (Paperback)
 Maria Montez (Author), Tracey S. D'Onofrio (Illustrator)
 List Price: \$14.99
 Price: \$10.11 & eligible for **FREE Super Saver Shipping** on orders over \$25. [Details](#)
 You Save: \$4.88 (33%)
In Stock.
 Ship from and sold by Amazon.com. Gift-wrap available.
Want it delivered Tuesday, November 28? Order it in the next 28 hours and 4 minutes, and choose **One-Day Shipping** at checkout. [Details](#)
Ordering for Christmas? To ensure delivery by December 24, choose **FREE Super Saver Shipping** at checkout. [Read more about holiday shipping.](#)

I Can Problem Solve: An Interpersonal Cognitive Problem-Solving Program : Intermediate Elementary Grades (Paperback)
 Gloria A. Stone (Author)
 List Price: \$44.95
 Price: \$34.11 & this item ships for **FREE with Super Saver Shipping**. [Details](#)
 You Save: \$7.84 (17%)
In Stock.
 Ship from and sold by Amazon.com. Gift-wrap available.
 Only 18 left in stock - order soon (more on the way).
Want it delivered Tuesday, November 28? Order it in the next 28 hours and 34 minutes, and choose **One-Day Shipping** at checkout. [Details](#)
Ordering for Christmas? To ensure delivery by December 24, choose **FREE Super Saver Shipping** at checkout. [Read more about holiday shipping.](#)

Cognitive Instructional Methods



LEARNING & the BRAIN

313

Other Lessons from www.efintheclassroom.net

Working Memory
Lesson



LEARNING & the BRAIN

314

What is Working Memory

- Georgiou, Das, and Hayward (2008) described **working memory** as the capacity of the individual to store information for a short period of time and manipulate it using a phonological loop and visual-spatial sketchpad (Baddeley & Hitch, 1974)
- The **visual-spatial sketchpad** is described as a mental image of visual and spatial features (Engle & Conway, 1998)
- The **phonological loop** refers to retention of information from speech-based systems that are particularly important when order of information is required (Engle & Conway, 1998)

LEARNING & the BRAIN

Working Memory Game

- You will see a series of words presented at 2 per second. The words are from two different categories. For example, Man - Hammer - Boat - Woman, would be organized into Man and Woman (people), Hammer and Saw (tools)
- When you see the STOP sign, that is the time for you will write the words down in two columns.

LEARNING & the BRAIN



**Put the words into groups.
Write them down.**

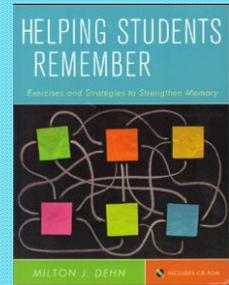
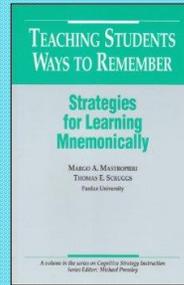
LEARNING & the BRAIN

Time to Think and Talk

- **Task:**
- Time: 2 minutes
- What Strategies did you use?
- Who do you know about how you learn?

START	120 seconds left
	100 seconds left
	80 seconds left
	60 seconds left
	40 seconds left
	20 seconds left
STOP	

Memory Training Engages EF



Mnemonics for sequence

- Mnemonics are EF strategies that help students remember

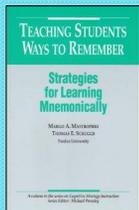


Figure 7.5 "My Dear Aunt Sally" = Multiplication, Division, Addition, and Subtraction

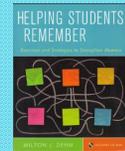
Teaching Students What Works For Them

Helping Students Remember: Exercises and Strategies to Strengthen Memory
by Milton J. Dehn
Copyright © 2011 John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Lesson 7: Memory Strategies Survey

Name _____ Grade _____ Date _____
Below is a list of different methods that students use to memorize information. Circle the word that best describes how often you use each method. Ask your trainer about any words you don't understand.

1. Repeating the information several times
Never Sometimes Always
2. Making a list of things to do
Never Sometimes Always
3. Writing information down several times
Never Sometimes Always
4. Putting the words to remember in a sentence or story
Never Sometimes Always
5. Grouping words into categories
Never Sometimes Always



Teaching Students What Works For Them

Lesson 49: Plans for Using Memory Strategies

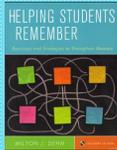
Name _____ Grade _____ Date _____

Directions

- Look at the list of memory strategies below and:
1. Put a + beside the ones that work best for you.
 2. Put a - beside the ones that do not seem to work well for you.
 3. Put an # beside the ones that you plan to use to improve your memory for what you need to remember outside of school.
 4. Put an S beside the ones that you plan to use to improve your memory for what you need to learn and remember for school.
 5. For each strategy you mark with an S, write in an example of a class for which you would use it.

Class Example

- ___ Repetition
- ___ Chalking
- ___ Putting Words into Sentences and Stories
- ___ Picturing Verbal Information
- ___ Naming and Describing What You See
- ___ Grouping Words by Category
- ___ Imagining Yourself in the Scene
- ___ Using Locations to Remember Information



Time to Think and Talk

- **Task:**
- Time: 2 minutes
- Talk with your partner and make a list of all the mnemonics you use to remember things
- And all the things you do to help you remember
- **REPORT TO THE GROUP**

START	120 seconds left
	100 seconds left
	80 seconds left
	60 seconds left
	40 seconds left
	20 seconds left
STOP	

Benefits of Strategy Instruction

- Students trust their minds
- Students know there is more than one right way to do things
- They acknowledge their mistakes and try to rectify them
- They evaluate their products and behavior
- Memories are enhanced
- Learning increases
- Self-esteem increases
- Students feel a sense of power
- Students become more responsible
- Work completion and accuracy improve
- Students develop and use a personal study process
- They know how to "try"
- On-task time increases: students are more "engaged"

Presentation Outline

- Comprehensive Model of EF
 - Historical Perspective
 - Definitions of Executive Function
- EF as Behavior
- EF as an Ability (an intelligence)
- EF as Social Emotional Skills
- Research about EF as ability, behavior, and SE
- **Think Smart!** -- EF Skills in the Classroom
 - More lesson plans for improving components of EF
- **Conclusions**

Conclusions

- The concept of EF is evolving
- CEFI results indicate that when measured using observable behaviors the term Executive Function is supported
- CEFI provides a well normed measure of EF that has demonstrated reliability & validity
- There is evidence that children can better use EF and improve achievement and behavior

Conclusions-- on Education

- Benjamin Franklin – Tell me and I forget.
Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn.
- Teacher's role is to give only as much help as is necessary,
NOT to be the frontal lobes for the student



Conclusions

- The teacher's role is to give the student knowledge of facts **and** to encourage the use of Executive Function
- When we give students the responsibility to figure out how to do things we teach them to **THINK SMART! and use EF**
- **This is the gift of smarter thinking**
- **This is a gift of optimism**
- **This is a gift for life success**
- **EF is about LIFE not just school**

Thank you for attending