



The Center for Executive Function Skill Development

160 Lincoln Road, Suite 206 Lincoln MA, 01773 | 781-243-0841 (P) | 866-776-7517 (F) | info@executivefunctiontherapy.com

## School Observations

Observations are an important way to evaluate a student's language and communication skills in their natural learning environment. Informal assessment of these skills assists in understanding classroom dynamics, student strengths and weaknesses, and how these factors support or interfere with learning. The classroom environment, interpersonal interactions between the student and teacher/instructional aides and peer interactions are recorded for analysis. The observation focuses on the extent to which the student is learning, comprehending, applying, analyzing, synthesizing and generalizing information during classes, activities and social communication settings at school.

We closely observe how the student is executing in the classroom as well as within the larger school environment. Important executive function based questions are asked:

- Are they goal oriented?
- Can they sustain attention to task?
- How does the student manage their time and organize materials in and outside of the classroom?
- Can the child read the room, respond accordingly and transition effectively?
- Has the student completed and turned in homework?
- Does the student obey rules and participate in class discussions?
- Does the student show interest in the subject, enjoy helping others, etc.
- How often does the student demonstrate a problem solving approach to unexpected changes or problems?
- How does the student communicate with teachers and peers during instruction and informal social times?

Specific strategies and goals are recommended based on the analysis. Classroom recommendations and program development are provided in conjunction with formal evaluation measures or independently as deemed appropriate for an individual student's situation.