Speech and Language Concerns

Expressive and Receptive Language

Use - Pragmatics
Pragmatic language is the knowledge of how and when to communicate in social settings. Students need to understand and initiate joint attention (two people paying attention to the same object), and demonstrate awareness of other people’s thoughts, feelings, and perspectives.

Understanding Perspectives
Ask these questions and write down responses:

“How would your friend feel if…..”

1. They fell down on the playground?

2. They got to be the line leader (or another reward at school)?

3. They broke the teacher’s cup?

“How would you feel if…..”

1. You got a birthday present you have been asking for?

2. You lost your homework and the teacher is asking for it?

3. Your friend said you cannot play with him?

Gesture to something in the classroom as you talk about it:

Does he consistently look at what you point to? Y/N

Please list any other concerns you have regarding the ways in which the student communicates with others:

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________
Expressive Language/Pragmatics Checklist:
Please observe your student in varying environments: (i.e., classroom, small group, playground, etc.) and respond to the following questions:

Does the student:

- State his/her name and age when asked  □ Yes □ No
- Respect others’ personal space when speaking  □ Yes □ No
- Respond appropriately to you when greeted  □ Yes □ No
- Greet peers appropriately  □ Yes □ No
- Request assistance when needed □ Yes □ No
- Express curiosity with peers in activities □ Yes □ No
- Confuse pronouns “I” and “you” when speaking □ Yes □ No
- Have a monotone, flat, “robotic” rhythm of speaking □ Yes □ No
- Use appropriate vocal volume in varying settings (i.e., library vs. playground) □ Yes □ No
- Say inappropriate or unrelated things during conversations □ Yes □ No
- Maintain a conversation □ Yes □ No
- Clarify an idea if not understood by others □ Yes □ No
- Take turns speaking in a conversation □ Yes □ No
- Answer “Why” questions □ Yes □ No
- Use and respond appropriately to humor □ Yes □ No