

Temperament and Individual Differences

1. If uncertain or unaware of child's temperament vs. parenting response or environment can cause frustration and lack of confidence in one's parenting skills. Others will impose that responsibility on you, the clearer you are the easier it is to tolerate others imposing. How many of you - used adults in your home to determine temperament?
2. A child who is not understood or accepted begins to form a negative self image.
3. From birth children have different styles and temperaments.
4. It is not a matter of childrearing skills nor is it just child's temperament but a combination of the two.
5. Consider:
 - a. intensity
 - b. intensity
 - c. activity level
 - d. adaptability
 - e. tendency to approach/withdraw
 - f. distractible or concentrator
 - g. sensitivity
 - h. regularity
 - i. persistent or not
6.
 - A. What makes your child easier to handle than other children?
 - B. What makes your child more difficult to handle than other children?
 - C. Consider your temperamental style
 1. How does that make it easier to handle your child?
 2. How does that make it harder to handle your child?
 - D. Consider your spouse's temperamental style
 1. How does that make it easier to handle your child?
 2. How does that make it harder to handle your child?
7. As parents:
 - a. You're not responsible for every aspect of your child's behavior.
 - b. Learn to recognize child's temperament and meet special needs, demand it of others.
 - c. Look at pluses and minuses of each style.

Temperamental Continuum Map

	Self	Child
Intensity	5-----1-----5	5-----1-----5
Intensity	5-----1-----5	5-----1-----5
Activity level	5-----1-----5	5-----1-----5
Adaptability	5-----1-----5	5-----1-----5
Tendency to approach/withdraw	5-----1-----5	5-----1-----5
Distractible concentrator	5-----1-----5	5-----1-----5
Sensitivity	5-----1-----5	5-----1-----5
Regularity	5-----1-----5	5-----1-----5
Persistent or not	5-----1-----5	5-----1-----5