ASD Structured Student Interview

Directions: This is an interview designed to illicit responses from a student that may help an evaluator understand how the student *thinks* about things. This is not a diagnostic tool, it is an informal interview. If used for evaluation purposes, this tool should be accompanied by teacher and parent interviews as well as more standardized ASD checklists.

Student: _____ Date: _____

Evaluator(s): _____

(When interviewing, note any odd speech patterns.)

1. What is your favorite thing to talk about?

2. Do you have a best friend? What is your best friend's name? How do you know he is your best friend?

3. What is one thing you really like about your best friend? (if no best friend, use mother)

4. What do you do with your best friend? Do you two talk on the phone, text message or e-mail each other? Ever sleep over?

5. Name one thing your best friend thinks is really important? One thing he thinks is really funny.

(Is the student using emotional language? Are his thoughts about friendship at age level or younger?)

6. What is an important rule at your school? Why do you think school need rules?

7. Tell me something that really makes your teacher mad? Why do you think that would make her/him mad?

8. How can you tell when your teacher is mad?

9. What is the best thing about school?

10. What is the worst thing about school?

(Remember to share something about yourself and wait for the student to ask you more about it or expand on what you say)

11. Who do you usually eat lunch with?

12. Have you ever had trouble getting along with other people?

13. Have you ever tried to make things go better for you with other people? How did it work?

14. What is the most frustrating thing about adults? What about people your own age?

15. Do you ever want to get married? Why do you think people would want to get married?

16. What would you like to be when you grow up, or what kind of job would you like to have? What are some of the things you will need to do to make that happen?

17. Have you ever been teased? What kind of things have you been teased about?

18. What kinds of things make you really mad at school? What do you usually do when you get mad? Does that work?

19. Why do you think it is important to look at someone when you are talking to him/her? What is the hardest thing about doing that?

20. If you had 3 wishes for your friends (classmates) for things that they would really want, what would they be?

21. Solve this situation: You come home from school and you go into the kitchen and you find your mother crying. What would you do? Why would you do that?

Notes about the interview: