The Dyssemia Rating Scale (DRS)—School Screening
Date:
Interpreted by:

The Dyssemia Rating Scale (DRS)—School Screening is an observation rating scale related to how a student communicates nonverbally. "Dyssemia is a term used to refer to a nonverbal social communication deficit (Nowak and Duke, 1992)." /// was rated on a 4-point scale of frequency of behaviors related to nonverbal social communication by /// teacher. Ratings were of the following: 0= not observed, 1= rarely (once in 2 weeks), 2= sometimes (several times each week), 3= often (daily or more).

Overall Ratings indicate the total of the items rated in each of the categories. The Total indicates overall ratings and contributes to the severity of difficulty with nonverbal communication. When there are scores of 3 to 6 on any of the categories, a closer look should be taken to indicate if they have difficulty with that given category.

Dyssemia Rating Scale	Overall Ratings
Gaze and Eye Contact	
Space and Touch	
Paralanguage	
Facial Expression	
Objectics	
Hands and Hand Gestures	
Social Rules/Norms	
Nonverbal Receptivity	
Conversational Skills	
Chronemics and Use of Time	
Total:	

- An overall score of 15-25 is an indication of moderate dyssemia or moderate difficulty with nonverbal communication
- An overall score of more than 25 indicates problematic dyssemia or difficulty with nonverbal communication.

***** The following should be considered with other evaluation data gathered for indication of overall need for supports.***

Gaze and Eye Contact
STUDENT will …
Space and Touch
/// has difficulty with …

Paralanguage
/// has difficulty with …

Facial Expression
/// has difficulty with …

Objectics
/// has difficulty with …

Hands and Gestures

/// has difficulty with …

Social Rules/Norms
/// has difficulty with …

Nonverbal Reciprocity
/// has difficulty with …

Conversational Skills
/// has difficulty with …

Chronemics and the Use of Time
/// will …