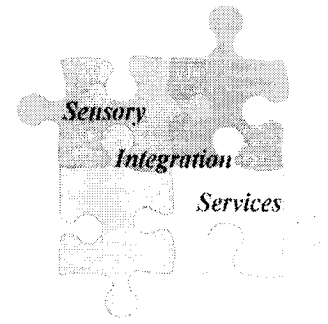


Kristen Mayrose, OTR/L
Occupational Therapist

7204 Scotland Road
Akron, NY 14001
Phone: (716) 570-8078
Email: kristenmayrose@yahoo.com



WHAT IS SENSORY INTEGRATION?

Sensory Integration is the process of the nervous system organizing sensory information for use in real life situations. Your senses (seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, moving, touching) tell you so much about the world. With coordination of all of these senses, we can execute an effective purposeful plan.

For example, when a nervous system has good integration, a child is able to sit at a desk, pay attention appropriately without distraction, follow directions and complete an activity.

WHAT IS SENSORY INTEGRATION DYSFUNCTION?

When an individual is unable to make use of one or more senses, dysfunction can occur due to the body's lack of understanding or interpretation of the sensation.

For example, when a child has a poorly integrated sensory system, task completion may be poor due to:

- *The inability to filter extraneous noise so the child's attention is diverted from tasks.*
- *Poor integration of the eyes and hand creating difficulty copying from the board or lining up math problems correctly resulting in incorrect responses.*
- *Poor integration of the sense of movement and balance can create poor desk posture and fatigue.*

These are just a few examples of how poor Sensory Integration can negatively affect your child.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR?

Does your child:

- Display hypersensitivity that interferes with functioning?
- Have difficulty manipulating pens, scissors, and other tools?
- Have poor seated posture? Seem to fatigue?
- Have an over abundance of energy?
- Have difficulty modulating their behaviors?
- Have difficulty following directions?

If your child suffers from these or other issues that interfere with successful school or daily life performance, Sensory Integration Dysfunction should be investigated.