When Executive Skills are Lagging: Encouraging Achievement

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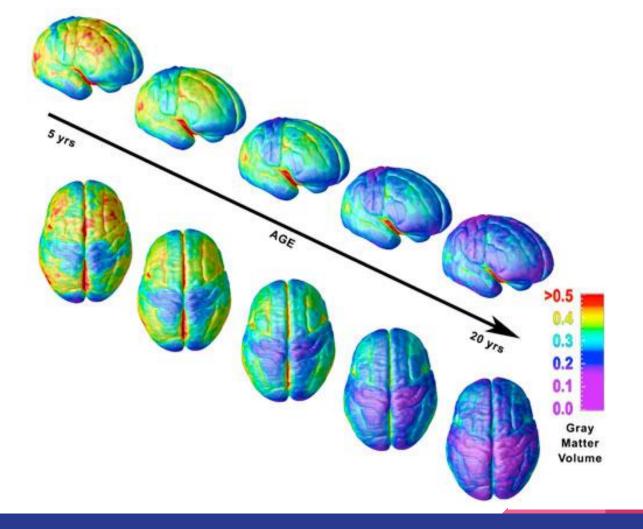
Amy Miller

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Greater Dane County Advanced Learner Network
May 31, 2016

What Executive Function challenge do you see in the students that you work with?

Please record your response on the post-it note provided





Over 150,000 in Print!

The Revolutionary "Executive Skills" Approach to Helping Kids Reach Their Potential

Boost Any Child's Ability to:

- ✓ Get Organized
- Follow Through on Tasks
- ✓ Resist Impulses
- ✓ Learn from Mistakes
- ✓ Stay Focused
- ✓ Stay in Control of Emotions
- ✓ Use Time Wisely ✓ Solve Problems Independently
- / Plan Ahead
- ✓ Be Resourceful

Peg Dawson, EdD, and Richard Guare, PhD

The "Executive Skills" Program for Helping Teens Reach Their Potential

Over 50,000 in Print!

SIIIART but SCATTER

Boost Any Teen's Ability to:

- Resolve conflict
- Assess risks
- Control emotions
- Work independently
- Pay attention

- Get organized
- Resist peer pressure
- / Follow through
- / Manage a schedule
- / Plan ahead



Richard Guare, PhD, Peg Dawson, EdD, and Colin Guare



Executive Skills in Children and Adolescents

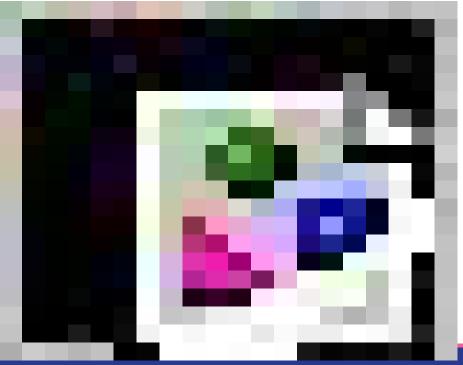
A Practical Guide to Assessment and Intervention

SECOND EDITION

PEG DAWSON and RICHARD GUARE

Coaching Students with Executive Skills **Deficits PEG DAWSON** RICHARD GUARE





What is Executive Function?

Is an umbrella term describing seven major types of self-regulation that control behavior.

Seven Major Types

- 1. Self-Awareness: self directed attention
- 2. **Self-Restraint:** inhibiting yourself
- 3. **Non-Verbal Working Memory:** holding things in your mind to guide behavior
- 4. Verbal Working Memory: internal speech
- 5. **Emotional:** Using words and images along with self-awareness to alter how we feel about things
- 6. **Self-Motivation:** the ability to get ourselves to do things when there are no outside consequences
- 7. **Planning and Problem Solving:** finding new ways to do things.

Four Major Circuits

The "what circuit" controls working memory, helping us execute the plans, goals, and specific steps needed to complete project.

The "when circuit" helps us organize in which order we complete activities, and address timelines.

The "why circuit" controls emotions-what we think about, and how we feel

The fourth circuit controls **self-awareness** of how we are feeling, and what is happening to us.

Two Dimensions of Executive Skills

Executive skills involving thinking (cognition)	Executive skills involving doing (behavior)
Working Memory	Response inhibition
Planning/prioritization	Emotional control
Organization	Sustained attention
Time management	Task initiation
Metacognition	Goal-directed persistence
	Flexibility

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"The key to time management is strict and disciplined adherence to a rigid schedule, while remaining flexible enough to let anything happen at any time."



" He only makes lists of things to do tomorrow. "

Questionnaires to Understand EF



Group Share Out

How might knowing this information about you and your child be helpful?

How your own executive function strengths and weaknesses matter

- I am organized, why aren't you?
- I am flexible, why aren't you?
- I am calm, you get emotional/angry.
- I am a neat freak, you are a slob.
- I get it done right away, you procrastinate.
- I don't interrupt, you do.

What do you do when your strengths are your child's weaknesses?

- Make a point of identifying where you are weak and your child is strong.
- Model with a sense of humor.
- Be creative in using your strengths to help your child enhance their skills.
- Remember to have a growth mindset attitude about the development of these skills and to use growth mindset language with your child.

When you and your child share the same weakness...

- Work at it together and laugh about the shared weakness
- Work together to brainstorm solutions to common problems
- Remind yourself that you have survived, your child will too! :)
- Consider taking a systematic approach to addressing your own weakness at the same time you are addressing it with your child



S pace	Time	Organization/ Objects	People	
Read the Room	Get on the Timeline	Read the Organization of the Space	Read the Person	
 What's going on? Expected? Unexpected? Wide Angle Zoom in 	 Pace Time of day What is happening at this moment in time What is coming up? Predictable sequence 	 Objects Parts Location Purpose 	 Face Body Appearance Mood Pace Saying 	

Situational Intelligence









Mimetic-Ideational Information Processing

(mental trial and error simulation)



If _____

Then _____

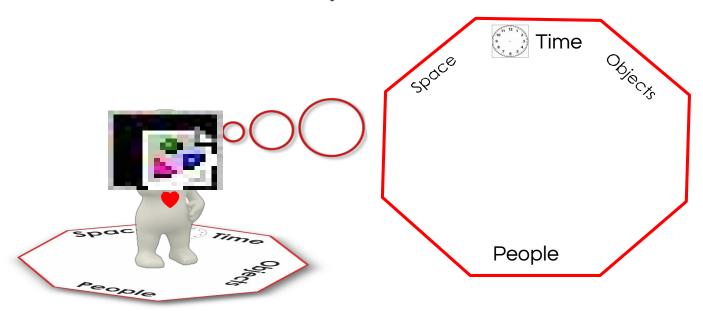
"So I better go to my locker (space).
I only have a few minutes before the ell rings (time)

I need to get my poetry journal (object) and then I have science class next (time) so I better get my lab goggles too(objects).

Mrs. Smith is a tough teacher (people) I better turn my journal in on time so I do not lose points.

Task Execution

Start with the end in mind... What will you look like?



The Working Clock – Seeing Hourly Time Shade the Available Time

Draw How Much Time The Student Has

Identify/Sketch The "Future Picture Image" Factor

in time to 'Get Ready' and 'Close out' task

Create Time Markers:

- Start Time
- Stop Time
- Mid Point



Create Time Markers!



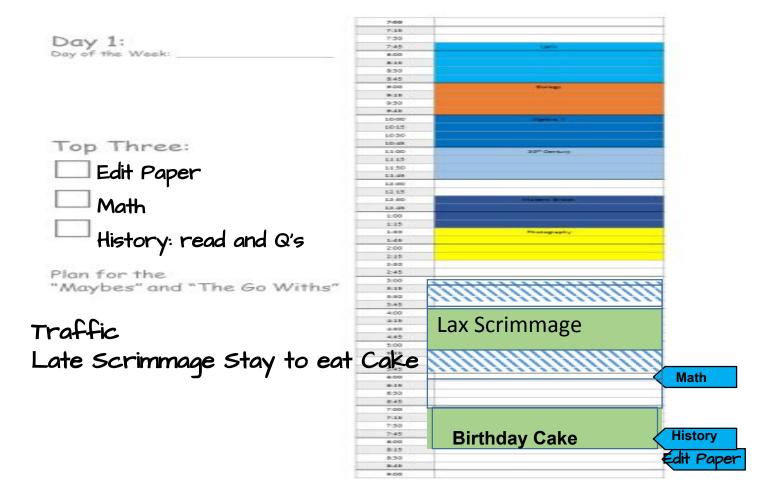
My Powerclock is a cool, easy set timer for setting the time to check in at the midpoint and self monitor how the time plan is going and adjust the plan accordingly.



Teaching Planning Skills



Teaching Planning Skills



Study Skills

- Parents complain that kids do not know what "study" means
- Students equate "study" with memorize and don't start to "study" until the night before if at all

Studying For Tests

• Prioritize Study Time:

KNOW	SORT OF KNOW	NO IDEA

Teaching Study Skills

Day 1: Look Back: Review old test and set goals for this test/quiz

Day 2: Create or receive a study guide

Day 3: Use the study guide and have your child organize their notes and materials in an order that corresponds with the study guide

Day 4: Read through their notes and the study guide and identify "What I know, What I kind of know, No Clue"

Teaching Study Skills

Day 5: Read through the notes/study guide and create mnemonics/crazy phrases/flashcards/reminding words, etc. for those terms or concepts that are hard to remember

Share with a friend or two!

Day 6: Independent studying

Day 7: Be quizzed by a parent/adult/peer

Day 8: Test

Planning Study Time or Long Term Projects

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Sunday Thursday Friday Saturday Soccer 9 7 8 10 11 12 13 Soccer Tutor Soccer Game Dad's Birthday! 14 15 17 18 19 16 20 SCHOOL VACATION Soccer Tutor Soccer Game 21 22 23 25 26 27 Make Review Organize Memorize Study Old Test Test Tools Materials coming Over Soccer Game Over with Jack 28 30 Memorize Mom Quiz Tutor Me

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Soccer				
	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Soccer	Tutor		Dad's Birthday!	Soccer Game
1	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Soccer	Tutor	SCHOOL VA		Soccer Game
2 Soccer Game	1	Orga Review Test Old Test	-	Make Study Tools Coming Over	26	Memorize Over with Jack
Memorize 2	Mom Quiz Me	30	Tutor			

+‡+

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
		Soccer	Tutor		Dad's Birthday!	Soccer Game
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		Soccer	Tutor	SCHOOL VA	ACATION	Soccer Game
21 Soccer Game	22	23 Soccer	Orgo Revie Test Old 1 Mat		26	Memorize Over with Jack
Memorize 28	Mom Quiz Me	30	Tutor			

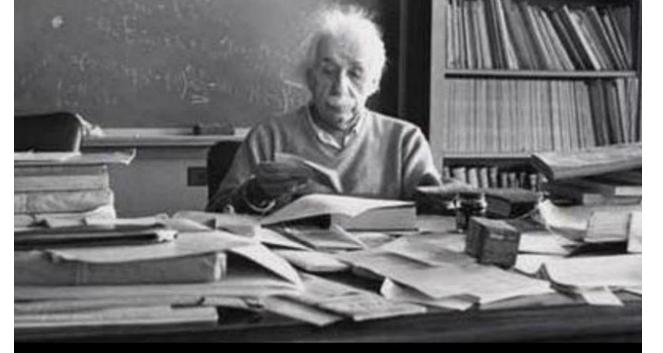
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Soccer Game		Soccer		Andrew Coming Over		Soccer Game/Sleep Over with Jack
" Old Test	morize m Quiz	30	Tutor			
Organize Test Make Study Tools						





"If a cluttered desk is a sign of a cluttered mind, of what, then, is an empty desk a sign?"

— Albert Einstein

Thank you!

Questions?

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Greater Dane County Advanced Learner Network gdcaln.org

Sources

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Smart but Scattered: Guare, Dawson and Guare

Staying a Beat Ahead: Sarah Ward and Kristen Jacobsen

Declarative Language: Linda Murphy