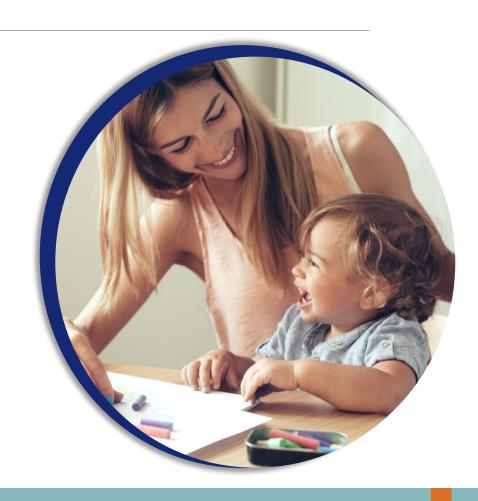# MEISR™

Measure of Engagement, Independence, and Social Relationships

Assess infant and toddler levels of engagement, independence, and social relationships within the context of common family routines

Contents

What is the MEISR™?

The **MEISR™** is an easy-to-use, **parent-completed** tool for developing a snapshot of the **functional behaviors** of children up to 3 years in age.

Developers

R. A. McWilliam, Ph.D.

- Originator of the Routines-Based Model
- Professor of special education at The University of Alabama, where he founded and directs the Evidence-based International Early Intervention Office (EIEIO)
- Founder and leader of the RAM Group, an international community of practice fostering the Routines-Based Model

Naomi O. Younggren, Ph.D.

- Part C/Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD) Coordinator for the Department of Defense Army Educational and Developmental Intervention Services (EDIS) Early Intervention Programs
- Independent consultant focusing on early intervention and preschool processes and best practices

Purposes for the MEISR

1

To **help families**, as members of intervention teams, **assess a child's participation** in everyday situations, which in turn might inform intervention priorities

Purposes for the MEISR

2

To **help professionals ask families relevant questions** about child functioning in home routines, such as when conducting a **routines-based interview**

Purposes for the MEISR

3

To **monitor a child's progress** at 6-month intervals

MEISR components

The **MEISR™ Set**
includes the
MEISR Manual
and one pack of
MEISR Forms
(5 per package).

Order the Forms

Order the Manual

Order the Set

How it works

How it works – #1

1

The MEISR examines a child's functioning within **14 everyday routines**. Each routine has 14–47 items, totaling 386 individual items.

Routines assessed

Waking Up	Play With Others	Bedtime
Toileting/Diapering	Nap Time	Going Out
Meal Times	Outside Time	Grocery Shopping
Dressing Time	Play by Him- or Herself	Transition Time
Hangout – TV – Books	Bath Time	

Crosswalked items

MEISR items are helpfully crosswalked with...

1 the **functional outcomes** of engagement, independence, and social relationships

2 the five **developmental domains** required on IFSPs

3 the three **federal child outcomes**

Crosswalked items

1. Waking Up Participates in <u>waking up</u> time by . . .	Typical starting age in months	Not yet	Sometimes	Often or Beyond this	Funcᵃ	Devᵇ	Outᶜ
1.01 Making vocal sounds	0	1	2	3	S	CM	K
1.02 Showing enjoyment when held, rocked, touched by caregiver	0	1	2	3	S	S	S
1.03 Looking at caregiver and making eye contact	0	1	2	3	S	S	S
1.04 Easily turning head to both sides	1	1	2	3	I	M	A
1.05 Acting happy to see or hear caregiver	1	1	2	3	S	S	S
1.06 Showing interest in crib toys (e.g., watching mobile)	2	1	2	3	E	CG	K
1.07 Turning over from side to tummy or side to back	2	1	2	3	I	M	A
1.08 Smiling, kicking, moving arms excitedly when sees caregiver	2	1	2	3	S	S, M	S
1.09 Reaching out for or batting at toys, repeating action with enjoyment	3	1	2	3	E	CG, M	K
1.10 Playing with hands and feet, touching and watching movements	3	1	2	3	E	CG	K
1.11 Turning toward the sound of caregiver's voice	3	1	2	3	S	S	S
1.12 Maintaining sitting at least briefly	5	1	2	3	I	M	A
1.13 Raising arms to be picked up when caregiver reaches for child	5	1	2	3	S	CM, S	S

KEY:
Funcᵃ Functional Domains: **E** = engagement, **I** = independence, **S** = social relationships
Devᵇ Developmental Domains: **A** = adaptive, **CG** = cognitive, **CM** = communication, **M** = motor, **S** = social
Outᶜ National Child Outcomes: **S** = positive social relationships, **K** = acquiring and using knowledge and skills, **A** = taking appropriate action to meet needs

How it works – #2

2

With the guidance of an early intervention professional, **parents or caregivers complete the MEISR** in just 45 minutes.

Completing the MEISR

Items in each routine are marked with a score of 1, 2, or 3.

1   the child does **not yet** do this

2   the child does this **sometimes**

3   the child does this **often or has progressed beyond** this

Sample MEISR scoring

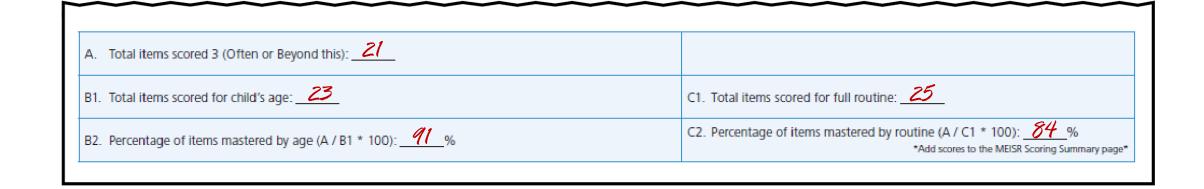| 1. Waking Up Participates in <u>waking up</u> time by . . .	Typical starting age in months	Not yet	Sometimes	Often or Beyond this	Func[a]	Dev[b]	Out[c]
1.01 Making vocal sounds	0	1	2	3	S	CM	K
1.02 Showing enjoyment when held, rocked, touched by caregiver	0	1	2	3	S	S	S
1.03 Looking at caregiver and making eye contact	0	1	2	3	S	S	S
1.04 Easily turning head to both sides	1	1	2	3	I	M	A
1.05 Acting happy to see or hear caregiver	1	1	2	3	S	S	S
1.06 Showing interest in crib toys (e.g., watching mobile)	2	1	2	(3)	E	CG	K
1.07 Turning over from side to tummy or side to back	2	1	2	(3)	I	M	A
1.08 Smiling, kicking, moving arms excitedly when sees caregiver	2	1	2	(3)	S	S, M	S
1.09 Reaching out for or batting at toys, repeating action with enjoyment	3	1	2	(3)	E	CG, M	K
1.10 Playing with hands and feet, touching and watching movements	3	1	(2)	3	E	CG	K
1.11 Turning toward the sound of caregiver's voice	3	1	2	(3)	S	S	S
1.12 Maintaining sitting at least briefly	5	(1)	2	3	I	M	A
1.13 Raising arms to be picked up when caregiver reaches for child	5	(1)	2	3	S	CM, S	S

How it works – #3

3

Basic scoring can be done by the caregiver or the caregiver and the professional together.

Sample MEISR scoring

Scores are calculated at the end of each routine.

A. Total items scored 3 (Often or Beyond this): __21__	
B1. Total items scored for child's age: __23__	C1. Total items scored for full routine: __25__
B2. Percentage of items mastered by age (A / B1 * 100): __91__ %	C2. Percentage of items mastered by routine (A / C1 * 100): __84__ % *Add scores to the MEISR Scoring Summary page*

Sample MEISR scoring

Then, transferred to the MEISR Scoring Summary sheet.

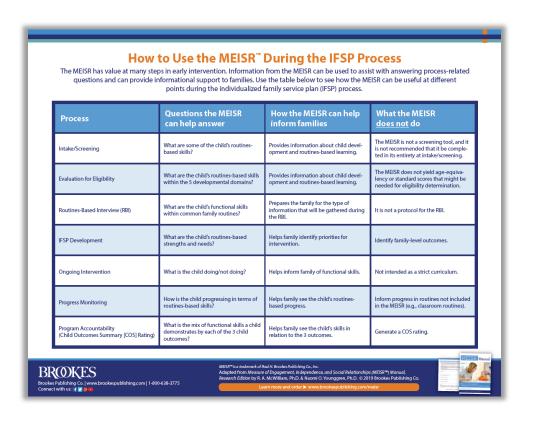| MEISR Scoring Summary					
MEISR Routines (number of items in routine)	A. Total Number of 3s	B1. Total Number of Items Scored for Child's Age	B2. Percentage of Items Mastered by Child's Age (A/B1 * 100 = %)	C1. Total Number of Items Scored for Routine	C2. Percentage of Items Mastered by Routine (A/C1 * 100 = %)
01. Waking Up (25)	21	23	91 %	25	84 %

Using MEISR results

Using MEISR results

With the results of the MEISR, you can…

- **Start important conversations** with families about their child's participation in everyday activities

- **Support child engagement**—an important prerequisite to learning

- **Empower families** to enhance natural learning opportunities

- Help families **choose functional skills** to address within the IFSP

- Help your team **determine Child Outcome Summary (COS) ratings**

- **Develop individualized intervention priorities**

Using the MEISR during the IFSP process

For more information about how to use the MEISR during the IFSP process, view this tip sheet at
http://bit.ly/meisr-ifsp.

Learn more and order today!

BROOKES