



Autism Assessment Overview

TYPES/PURPOSE

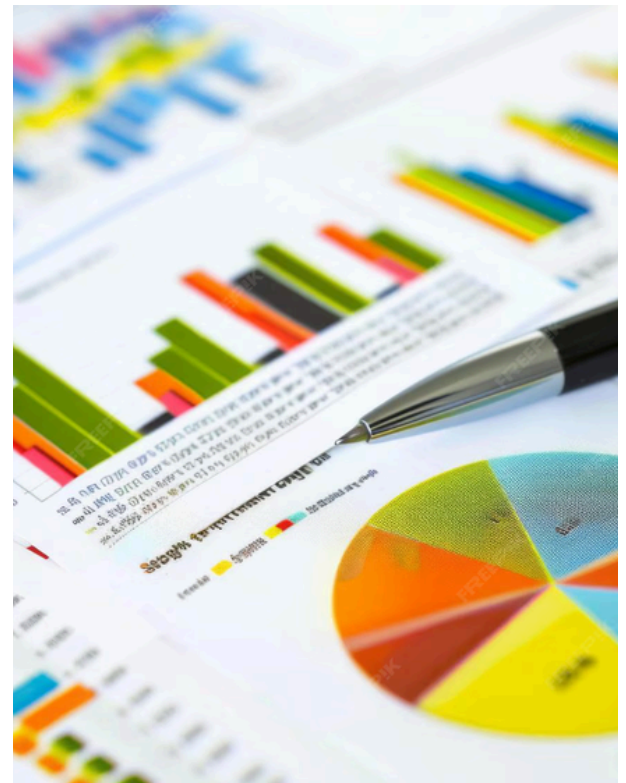
To provide a comprehensive baseline of a student's current skills and identify specific deficits to guide individualized instruction and IEP development.

Assessments Covered:

- VB-MAPP: Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program.
- ABLLS-R: Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills – Revised.
- AFLS: Assessment of Functional Living Skills.

HOW

1. Conduct Initial Assessment: Use direct observation and formal testing over multiple sessions to establish a baseline.
2. Score and Map: Record results on the assessment grids to visualize the student's current developmental "profile".
3. Identify Barriers: Specifically in VB-MAPP, identify learning barriers like prompt dependency or behavior issues.
4. Develop Goals: Use the assessment results to select age-appropriate, functional IEP goals.
5. Monitor Progress: Re-assess every 2-3 years (insurance or districts may require more frequent reassessment) to track growth and adjust teaching strategies.



BENEFITS

Effective assessment ensures that students receive an individualized language and learning curriculum tailored to their specific needs. By breaking down complex tasks into smaller, teachable components, teachers can pinpoint exactly where a student is struggling and celebrate incremental progress. This data-driven approach fosters better collaboration between school and home, as parents can see clear, visual proof of their child's growth over time.



FEATURED APP/RESOURCE

- VB-MAPP App: An electronic version of the assessment that provides automatic data charting, PDF exports for families, and AI-powered goal suggestions.
- WebABLLS / CR Assessments: A digital platform for the ABLLS-R and AFLS that allows for robust reporting, team collaboration, and longitudinal progress tracking.
- Different Roads to Learning: A primary resource for purchasing physical assessment kits, including all required stimuli and manuals.

Feature	VB-MAPP	ABLLS-R	AFLS
Primary Focus	Verbal behavior and early language milestones	Broad functional, academic, and learning skills	Independent living and vocational skills
Target Age	Birth to 4 years (developmentally)	2 to 6+ years (developmentally)	Early elementary through adulthood
Skill Areas	170 milestones; 24 learning barriers	544 skills across 25 domains	6 modules (Basic, Home, Community, etc.)
Best For	Identifying language barriers and early learners	Comprehensive IEP goal development	Preparing for independent living and transitions

REMINDERS

Assessments should be viewed as living documents, not just one-time tests. It is essential to refer to the official guides for these assessments to ensure scoring is accurate and goals are meaningful. Collaboration between BCBA's, teachers, and parents is vital to ensure that skills mastered in the classroom are generalized to the home and community.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



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Assessment Citations

VB-MAPP: Sundberg, M. L. (2008). VB-MAPP: Verbal Behavior Milestones Assessment and Placement Program: A Language and Social Skills Assessment Program for Children with Autism or Other Developmental Disabilities. Concord, CA: AVB Press.

ABLLS-R: Partington, J. W. (2006). The Assessment of Basic Language and Learning Skills-Revised (The ABLLS-R). Pleasant Hill, CA: Behavior Analysts, Inc.

AFLS: Partington, J. W., & Mueller, M. M. (2012). The Assessment of Functional Living Skills (AFLS). Pleasant Hill, CA: Behavior Analysts, Inc.

Foundational Theory: Skinner, B. F. (1957). Verbal Behavior. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall.

Digital Resource & App Citations

VB-MAPP App: Data Management and Reporting Platform. (2024). Retrieved from <https://www.vbmappapp.com>.

WebABLLS: Online Assessment, Tracking, and Reporting System. (2024). Behavior Analysts, Inc. Retrieved from <https://webablls.net>.

AFIRM Modules: Autism Focused Intervention Resources and Modules. (2024). University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Retrieved from <https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu>.



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