

THE STRENGTHS STAR

How accurate is each of the following statements about your child?

- 5 Extremely accurate
- 4 Very accurate
- 3 Moderately accurate
- 2 Slightly accurate
- 1 Not at all accurate

VERBAL SKILLS

Your child:

1. Embraces opportunities to talk to adults or large groups of kids—
e.g., wants to be in the school play, gets up onstage, or is comfortable speaking to a large group at a family reunion.
1 2 3 4 5
2. Is at ease while talking to a group, smiling and appearing happy and very calm while talking.
1 2 3 4 5
3. Has a large vocabulary, easily using in conversation new words she encounters.
1 2 3 4 5
4. Seeks out and quotes dialogue from films or cartoons, repeating entire sections verbatim.
1 2 3 4 5
5. Describes remembering events in terms of a verbal record of what happened, as though it was a radio program or a speech.
1 2 3 4 5

Verbal Skills: Parent Perspective Score: _____

Verbal Skills: Parent and Child Score: _____

SOCIAL SKILLS

Your child:

1. Reads people's emotions and needs quickly and responds appropriately.

1 2 3 4 5

2. Can talk to anyone, be it a close friend or new acquaintance, with ease.

1 2 3 4 5

3. Is attuned to who has social power in a situation—who the cool kids are, which teachers are important, or how extended family members relate to each other.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Likes complex social stories and can tell you about all the relationships between characters in a movie or story—for example, easily naming all of Harry Potter's friends and their houses at Hogwarts.

1 2 3 4 5

5. Is excited to interact with new people and sees this as a chance to learn and make friends.

1 2 3 4 5

Social Skills: Parent Perspective Score: _____

Social Skills: Parent and Child Score: _____

NARRATIVE SKILLS

Your child:

1. Tells, writes, or draws detailed stories with many characters and plot twists.

1 2 3 4 5

2. Serves as a family historian, remembering who said what, when, and to whom, or where an event happened and what happened there.

1 2 3 4 5

3. Loves biography, history, or fiction in film, plays, or TV, watching them constantly to learn about how and why things happened or to explore the world of imagination.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Remembers everything as a story, including science or math, using elements from his own life to give context to abstract concepts—for example, “Grandpa served in the navy and used a compass; compasses tell you which way is north.”

1 2 3 4 5

5. Sees patterns and forecasts how systems might play out, based on recombined memories—for example, “Everyone in school picks a Halloween costume based on movies, so Batman will be popular this year.”

1 2 3 4 5

Narrative Skills: Parent Perspective Score: _____

Narrative Skills: Parent and Child Score: _____

SPATIAL SKILLS

Your child:

1. Wants to tinker with, take apart, and put back together toys or anything electronic or mechanical.

1 2 3 4 5

2. Sets up experiments around the house with physical elements—for example, playing with mirrors, building large Lego creations, or becoming an expert in knot tying.

1 2 3 4 5

3. Loves models and miniatures—for example, playing with dollhouses or toy dump trucks, or building his own from kits or from scratch.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Wants to play with machines and tools in the house; talks about wanting to work in crafts or mechanical shops.

1 2 3 4 5

5. Talks about being able to see three-dimensional objects in her mind, putting together toys or furniture without assembly instructions.

1 2 3 4 5

Spatial Skills: Parent Perspective Score: ____

Spatial Skills: Parent and Child Score: ____

KINESTHETIC SKILLS

Your child:

1. Is a natural athlete who learns new sports or dances with ease, quickly mastering complex foot patterns or displaying good hand-eye coordination.

1 2 3 4 5

2. Must move around to explain or learn, moving objects or himself to make a point or tell a story.

1 2 3 4 5

3. Practices dance moves or sports moves around the house, repeating until she is satisfied she has them perfect.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Always moving, climbing, running, jumping, or lifting things, rarely if ever sitting still for more than five minutes.

1 2 3 4 5

5. Loves science experiments, field trips, or crafts, preferring to touch, smell, and manipulate objects instead of studying an abstraction of a process.

1 2 3 4 5

Kinesthetic Skills: Parent Perspective Score: _____

Kinesthetic Skills: Parent and Child Score: _____

VISUAL SKILLS

Your child:

1. Is skilled at drawing and painting and takes time on her own to create visual art.

1 2 3 4 5

2. Keenly focuses on hobbies in the visual arts, such as photography, video game making, graphic novels, or animation.

1 2 3 4 5

3. Describes seeing things in pictures or talks about his thoughts as colors, maps, or drawings as a primary way to understand the world.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Solves visual puzzles quickly, always finding Waldo in *Where's Waldo?* or seeing the quickest route to a location on a map with ease.

1 2 3 4 5

5. Dresses in a visually distinctive way, picking colors and styles that communicate something specific about the wearer to others, regardless of whether it is a conventional or outlandish message.

1 2 3 4 5

Visual Skills: Parent Perspective Score: ____

Visual Skills: Parent and Child Score: ____

MATHEMATICAL/SCIENTIFIC SKILLS

Your child:

1. Loves logic puzzles and computer games that involve math or science.

1 2 3 4 5

2. Excels in explaining math concepts, talking about physical relationships or patterns in numbers long before his peers begin noticing these relationships.

1 2 3 4 5

3. Relishes going to the science museum and doing experiments in school or at home, even if they are just pretend.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Focuses on hobbies in the natural world—for example, learning about butterflies, dinosaurs, or astronomy—and shows an uncanny ability to explain these biological or physical systems.

1 2 3 4 5

5. Enjoys math or science classes, especially when they are hands-on and involve visual or verbal presentations of math—for example, explaining a math problem rather than writing one.

1 2 3 4 5

Mathematical/Scientific Skills: Parent Perspective Score: ____

Mathematical/Scientific Skills: Parent and Child Score: ____

MUSICAL SKILLS

Your child:

1. Relishes singing or playing music, making up his own songs and practicing his music skills with gusto.

1 2 3 4 5

2. Idealizes DJs or musicians, listening to their work and discussing their styles in detail.

1 2 3 4 5

3. Likes to put on shows or concerts featuring music or singing for siblings or friends.

1 2 3 4 5

4. Skilled at using sounds for learning—for example, knows bird songs, animal calls, the fight songs of sports teams, or the sounds of specific engines or machines.

1 2 3 4 5

5. Notices sounds in an environment before others and with greater skill, or notices rhythm in unusual places—for example, dancing to the rhythm of the washing machine, or naming a song before others can.

1 2 3 4 5

Musical Skills: Parent Perspective Score: _____

Musical Skills: Parent and Child Score: _____