

## Sample Adaptation of ABLE Model for Use with Youth with Significant Intellectual Disabilities

1. Describe how you know when Ronnie likes something, or is happy. What are his behaviors?

*Ronnie appears to lean forward or tilt his body towards something. May possibly change the direction of his head (does not consistently have eye contact, but may be more frequent)*

2. Describe Ronnie's behaviors when he dislikes something or is unhappy.

*Ronnie picks at his fingers, both with his hands and with his mouth. He slows down or stops his physical behavior (walking, collating)*

3. Are there any specific texture characteristics of the things that Ronnie touches or works with?

**Soft, rough, hard OR smooth/slick textures**

*He appears to prefer textures that are activating. Smooth slick textures of computer or the rough contrast of a woven vest.*

4. Are there any specific pressure or speed characteristics in the way that Ronnie touches or works with things?

**Light OR Deep pressure  
Short/staccato OR Slow lingering touches**

*He seems to use a light quick touch when shaking hands and when working with things.*

5. Does Ronnie respond differently to specific characteristics of sound?

**High OR Low pitch  
Loud OR Soft tones  
Sharp OR Muted sounds  
Fast OR Slow sounds**

*I didn't observe any differences in behavior.*

6. Does Ronnie attend differently to specific visual characteristics?

**Shiny OR Dull surfaces  
High OR Low contrast items  
Bright, light OR Dull, dark colors**

*Ronnie worked primarily with neutral items, but appeared to attend to shiny, high contrast items. These items also had a rough texture so it was not possible to distinguish if he was attending only to one characteristic or both. When filling in the computer, Ronnie chose bright, dark colors that were a high contrast to the screen.*

- 7. Is there a difference in the speed of Ronnie's motor activity when he likes something and when he doesn't?**

*He slows or stops his motor activity and moves faster when he is engaged or wants something.*

- 8. Is there a difference in Ronnie's tone or body position when he likes something and when he doesn't?**

*This was hard to observe. I sensed a slight change in Ronnie's tone and body alignment when certain people were around, but was unable to define it as it happened so quickly. Would observe further for head tilt, body alignment, and body tone as well as frequency of eye checks.*

- 9. Does Ronnie need frequent physical changes (either in location or action)?**

*He appeared willing to remain seated for long periods of time and would go to a chair and sit down upon entering a room.*

- 10. Does Ronnie respond differently during gross or fine motor activities?**

*This was hard to observe as he remained seated throughout most of my observations. I would guess that Ronnie prefers minimal gross motor activity. He did seem to become bored with repetitive tasks.*

- 11. Does Ronnie respond differently to characteristics in the physical atmosphere?**

*Did not observe differences in physical atmosphere*

- 12. How does Ronnie respond to different social characteristics of his environment?**

**Fast OR Neutral OR Slow Environments  
Peers OR Staff  
Male OR Female**

*When in environments with peers, Ronnie sat at the edges of the environment, but appeared to observe the actions around him. He is alert to both staff and peers but appears to respond differently to staff (possible authority). I would observe further for differences between male and female.*