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ABSTRACT

The Leisure and Recreation Behavior Checklist (LRBC) is an open-ended checklist for recording behaviors of mentally handicapped adults. Its function is to profile individuals' leisure or recreation activities for program, administration, and research purposes. Intended for use by care-givers, the measure stresses recording of observed behaviors and not interpretations of behavior. Distinctions are drawn among leisure, leisure-education, and recreation behavior. The checklist is arranged in categories of behaviors such as Participant Activities, Crafts and Hobbies, etc. These are further subdivided into types of activities with each type consisting of specific activities (such as bowling and curling under Precision Sports). Client preferences may also be recorded. Instructions and a sample checklist are included. (DB)

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Leisure and Recreation Behavior Checklist¹

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Leisure and Recreation Behavior Checklist (LRBC)

The LRBC is an open-ended checklist for leisure or recreation behavior of mentally handicapped adults. Its function is to profile individuals' leisure or recreation activities for program, administration and research purposes.

Checklists of this sort may use either responses from a person whose behavior is being assessed or observations of a care giver. Experience has shown that responses from mentally handicapped persons may not be valid, and typically are not reliable. Validity is in question because the mentally handicapped adult may not know what is being asked, and reliability is in question because responses are often strongly context dependent. For these reasons this checklist is targeted for care givers of mentally handicapped adults.

Research in the area of infant testing has shown that responses of care givers are valid and reliable as long as care givers are asked to report on observed behavior rather than on interpretations of behavior. In order to ensure reliability of responses, care givers using the LRBC will be asked to report observed leisure or recreation behavior.

We encourage users of this checklist to distinguish between leisure, leisure-education or recreation behavior. A leisure activity may be defined as a socially appropriate activity that is performed willingly and for its own sake, is self-initiated, and is enjoyed. Leisure-education activities are usually viewed as part of a training curriculum and have the potential to become a leisure activity. A recreation activity may be defined as a socially appropriate activity that is performed for the benefit the activity brings, promises to bring, or is assumed to bring. That is, it is done for its utility not for its own sake.

Further, to ensure that the item-domain on the checklist is comprehensive

and that items are relevant, the items of this checklist were obtained from care givers of mentally handicapped adults living in community settings. Care givers were asked for current leisure and recreation activities of their clients. The responses were collated and organized into this checklist. This list of items should be viewed as an initial list to be tailored to the requirements of an agency. Items that are infrequently checked may be deleted and other items added. The checklist is intentionally open-ended to allow for the inclusion of new items.

The checklist is arranged in categories of behaviors (activities) such as Participant Activities, Crafts and Hobbies, etc. These are further subdivided into types of activities. For example, Participant Activities are divided into Precision Sports, Indoors Aquatic Sports, etc. Each of these types of activities consist of items. Thus, under Precision Sports appear such items as bowling, curling, etc. In some cases, the items themselves may be construed as rather large categories of heterogenous activities. When this is the case, further details of the activity are requested. For example, 'playing card games' is an item under Games. However, rather than checking off 'playing card games' as a behavioral item, the name of the card game is requested. The purpose of this categorization, however, is simply to provide guidelines for activities and to help identify areas in which an activity may be included.

In addition to checking off behavioral items the user may rate activities within each category in terms of client preference. These ratings, if used, will provide additional information about the leisure or recreation behavior of individuals and may be used for a variety of purposes such as programming, or program evaluation.

QUALIFICATIONS

To qualify for filling out the LRBC, we recommend that the user be a direct service provider, and to have known the person for whom the LRBC is being done (individual), for at least three months. The person knowing the individual best is considered the most qualified. The user may consult with other direct service providers regarding activities of the individual but must have assurance that the indicated activity has actually been observed to have been done by the individual. Individuals should not be asked with respect to their leisure or recreation activities. All information provided must be based on actual observations and these observations must be based on behavior that occurred within one year.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Carefully read all instructions.
2. Collect necessary information regarding the individual's leisure or recreational activities through observation.
3. Find the appropriate space for each activity observed (or fill in the activity in the spaces provided under the appropriate category if a listing is not found) and make a check mark for each activity.
4. When all the leisure or recreation activities have been entered, rate the activities from 1 through 4 in terms of the individual's preference. (1= strongly preferred, 2= preferred, 3= not preferred, 4= disliked).

CHECK (✓)	RATE 1-4	LIST OF ACTIVITIES
		<u>Participant Activities Cont.</u> Competitive games: Football Gymnastics Hockey Volleyball Basketball Other competitive games _____ _____ Racquet games: Playing table tennis _____ Tennis _____ Other racquet games _____ _____ Combative sports: Judo _____ Wrestling _____ Other combative sports _____
		<u>Spectator Activities</u> Watching T.V Going out to movies Going on shopping trips Going to musical events Going to sporting events Listening to music Visiting places of interest Going on sight-seeing tours Going to the theatre (plays, drama, etc.) Visiting amusement parks Relaxing at home
		<u>Art, Music, Drama</u> Playing musical instruments: Name instrument(s) _____ _____ Art activities: Writing Reading Drawing Painting Coloring Other art activities _____ _____

Rating Scale: 1=Strongly preferred, 2=Preferred, 3=Not preferred, 4=Disliked.

CHECK (✓)	RATE 1-4	LIST OF ACTIVITIES
		<u>Art, Music, Drama Cont.</u> Verbal expressions: Singing Public speaking Drama Other verbal expressions
		<u>Crafts and Hobbies</u> Product-oriented crafts: Pottery Weaving Other product-oriented crafts
		Technical activities: Photography Recording sounds Other technical activities
		Domestic activities: Cooking Baking Caring for domestic animals Caring for house plants Gardening Other domestic activities
		Self-care activities: Fitness Body building Other self-care activities
		Needle crafts: Sewing Crocheting Other needle crafts
		Constructing models: Constructing model cars Constructing model ships Constructing other models

Rating Scale: 1=Strongly preferred, 2=Preferred, 3=Not preferred, 4=Disliked.

CHECK (✓)	RATE 1-4	LIST OF ACTIVITIES
		<u>Games</u> Chance games: Playing bingo playing lottery Other chance games <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
		Playing card games: Name game(s) <hr/> <hr/>
		Playing board games: Name game(s) <hr/> <hr/>
		Communication games: Name game(s) <hr/> <hr/>
		Classifying objects: Name object(s) <hr/> <hr/>
		Playing with models: Playing with electric trains Playing with model planes Playing with model cars Playing with other models <hr/> <hr/>
		Playing video games Language games: Yahtze Scrabble Pass-word Other language games <hr/> <hr/>
		<u>Social Activities</u> Going to social events that involve food or beverage: Name social(s) <hr/> <hr/>

Rating Scale: 1=Strongly preferred, 2=Preferred, 3=Not preferred, 4=Disliked.

CHECK (✓)	RATE 1-4	LIST OF ACTIVITIES
		<u>Social Activities Cont.</u>
		Hosting social events:
		Name social event(s) _____

		Visiting (family/friends) _____
		Holding conversations _____
		Telephoning (family/friends) _____
		Participating in hobby clubs: _____
		Name club(s) _____

		Participating in religious events:
		Name event(s) _____

		Dancing _____
		Charades _____
		Other similar social activities _____

Rating Scale: 1=Strongly preferred, 2=Preferred, 3=Not preferred, 4=Disliked.