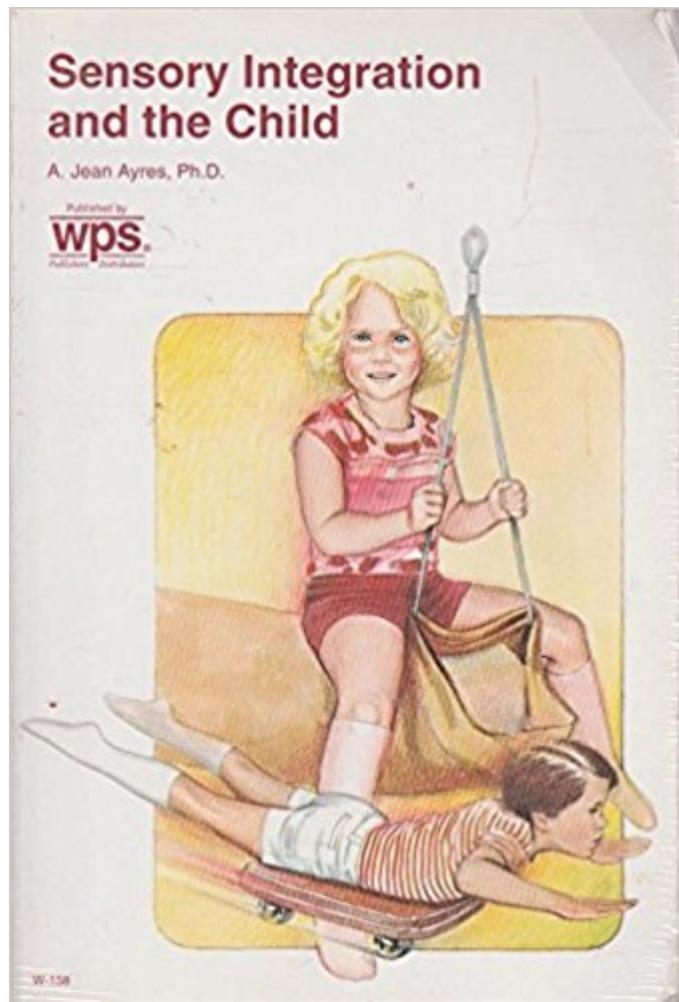


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# Sensory Integration And The Child



## **Synopsis**

This classic handbook, from the originator of sensory integration theory, is now available in an updated, parent-friendly edition. Retaining all the features that made the original edition so popular with both parents and professionals, *Sensory Integration and the Child* remains the best book on the subject. With a new foreword by Dr. Florence Clark and commentaries by recognized experts in sensory integration, this volume explains sensory integration dysfunction, how to recognize it, and what to do about it. Helpful tips, checklists, question-and-answer sections, and parent resources make the new edition more informative and useful. Indispensable reading for parents, this book is also an excellent way to improve communication between therapists, parents, and teachers. The original edition was the first book to explicate sensory integration dysfunction, and this edition offers new insights and helpful updates in an easy-to-use format.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

A must for parents, teachers, and others seeking to understand sensory integration dysfunction. --

Diana A. Henry, M.S., OTR/L [www.ateachabout.com](http://www.ateachabout.com) The revised format and additional

information...make this the ideal book for those who seek an introduction to sensory integration. --

Lynn A. Balzar-Martin, Ph.D., OTR private practice, Chevey Chase, Maryland This is a classic book and parents should be aware of it. -- T. Berry Brazelton, M.D. Professor Emeritus, Pediatrics, Harvard Medical School

Dr. A. Jean Ayres began to develop sensory integration theory, as well as the evaluation

procedures and intervention strategies that were associated with this framework, in the 1950s. When *Sensory Integration and the Child* was first published in the late 1970s, many aspects of her work were becoming more widely known. Although she was a dedicated researcher and educator, Dr. Ayres was foremost a therapist who worked tirelessly to help the children and families who came to her therapy clinic. Over and over again, she listened to the frustration parents expressed at not understanding their children's behavior, often followed by relief at having those problems named and explained, and hope when a plan for intervention was offered. Dr. Ayres wrote this book in order to bring a similar sense of relief and hope to families beyond those who were able to come to her clinic. Because she recognized that parents commonly went first to doctors, therapists, and teachers for help with the developmental or educational concerns they had about their children, she also wrote this book to help those professionals to assist families as well. Since its first printing, *Sensory Integration and the Child* has sold thousands of copies and has been translated into six languages. Educators, researchers, and clinicians who continue to develop and apply sensory integration theory have found this book to be an essential tool in communicating the basic concepts of this approach. Parents have also continued to praise this book for the way it has changed the course of their children's lives. Although *Sensory Integration and the Child* has continued to be vital and relevant, its format has been overwhelming to some parents. In order to make the information more accessible to families, a group of individuals long associated with Dr. Ayres and her work have put together this new edition. The core content has been preserved, with some of the more technical sections moved to the appendixes for further reference. Photographs, checklists, parent tips, cases, key quotes, and illustrations have been added within a new, easier to read layout. It is our hope that this 25th Anniversary Edition of *Sensory Integration and the Child* will preserve the brilliant insights and practical solutions Dr. Ayres offered in the original edition, while also making the information available to a wider range of families.

This is a great book for learning the basics of sensory integration. It seems very helpful for parents and others wanting to learn the basics of Ayres' theory and process. I used this book to try to brief myself for a dissertation. I still feel like I'm a bit unsure of the benefits and how the equipment helps by reading this book but overall, it was informative. It is also a very easy read. I would like to find a more medical/scientific book that explains how sensory integration in fact works. This is the only reason for the 4 stars rather than 5.

As an Early Childhood Educator I found this book a solid and easy to read reference tool - for both

sharing information with families, clarifying concerns and considering the wide range of diverse principles around working with the challenges of sensory integration issues. Highly recommended for any persons working with families, particularly of young children that are looking for a sensible, highly useful tool to assist in developing knowledge about sensory processing with easily considered checklists. I liked how the book was broken into sections to give overviews about the different areas that could be influenced by sensory dysfunction, how to develop strategies and share with parents/families. The ideas shared are backed up by strong theory based research and language is used that enables the reader to truly engage with shared information Loved it! Lynette

Great book. I wish I could have met her and thanked her in person. She was way ahead of her time.

This was recommended by my Occupational Therapist. The book explains the complex concept of sensory integration very nicely for everyone to understand. I will recommend this to the parents who might be tensed and confused from lots of unsolicited information available in the Internet. This book will tell you exactly what and why the problem is.

I'm a former special education teacher and juvenile prosecutor. Brain development or poor sensory integration were never addressed in my college of education. My husband (also a teacher) & I found it on our own because the curriculum the school district used was minimally effective and very boring for our kids who had behavior problems. Using a brain development focus (based initially on John Bowlby's attachment theory which was the perfect vehicle for brain develop curriculum) our kids excelled and they were again excited about learning. This book is really about brain development and how child learn. Sensory integration dysfunction is what results when a child's brain isn't stimulated through his/her senses, which is how humans learn and develop perception. Why don't colleges that prepare teachers for their jobs address the foundation of learning: sensory integration? Why don't schools have curricula that addresses the first seven years of brain development as the foundation for learning? This book could move schools from re-form to transformation, which is what really needs to happen. get this book and education yourself. I actually got out of education because it was the proverbial up-stream battle to be an effective teacher.

I found this book really informative. It explains exactly what's going on for children having difficulties in different sensory areas. Jean explains clearly how the brain processes sensory information and

offers suggestions to help parents and teachers.

This is a fine book, by a brilliant and enthusiastic researcher, and I would recommend anyone involved in treating developmentally disabled children to read it. They should be aware that not all of it is generally accepted as scientifically proven. Ayres uses some diagnostic terms that are not in DSM IV and ICD10. I wouldn't hold that against her, because many of the "official" diagnostic entities for childhood neuropsychiatric disorders are fuzzy. Sensory integrative disorder is not a DSM or ICD entity. Dyspraxia is an accepted neurological symptom. "Developmental dyspraxia" and "clumsy child syndrome" are in ICD10 and are used more in Britain. They are called "developmental coordination disorder" in DSM. The term "minimal brain disorder" or MBD is considered obsolete by these two nomenclatures. The child emerging from the womb must have a hard time making sense of all the sensations coming in from eyes and ears and touch and taste. Ayres believes that many developmental disorders are due to something going wrong with this process. It is a plausible theory, but hard to prove or disprove. The first 130 pages of the book are devoted to developing her theory, and to an overview of the whole of child development, neurology, and the theories of Piaget. Based on her theories she has produced the Southern California Sensory Integration Test. This is not reviewed in Lezack's "Neuropsychological Assessment." Based on the results of the SCSIT, occupational therapists trained in Ayres techniques carry out the treatments described in Chapter 10. The results of controlled trials of the treatment are not described in the book, but evidently many parents of afflicted children have found the treatment helpful. It involves four hours a week of treatment over an unspecified length of time, that is at least several months. If this could be proved to be effective it would be well worth the expense and time.

This is a great book for anyone in the special education field or the parent of a child with an autism spectrum disorder. I am using the information in Ayres book as background information in my dissertation. The information can help people make good decisions about therapies for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

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