

Points for observation and description

For the child study

Compiled by David Mitchell

History of the child From conception and birth and events from early childhood

Pregnancy: normal, difficulties, maternal illness, stress, accidents

Birth: normal, breech, caesarean, complications

First three years: crawling, walking, speech, memory, complete sentences, when did the child refer to him- or herself as "I"?

Childhood diseases and any other health problems

Teething

Accidents

Play

Physical description of the child

(only observations are noted here, not interpretations)

Skull: Head: large/small, round/angular

Forehead: high/low

Eyes: wide/narrow, large/small, color

Nose: large/small, snub/beaked

Cheekbones: high, flat

Mouth: small/large, thin/full

Chin: weak/strong, split/receding

Ears: small/large, primitive/complex, flat, standing off/set at an angle/upright, set low/set high (ears are usually located between the end of the nose and the eyes in a frontal view)

Earlobes: attached/free-floating, fleshy/thin

Neck and Shoulders: thick/thin, long/short

Trunk: broad-chested/narrow-chested/pigeon-breast/hollow back/too short/too long—compared to rest of body

Arms: too long/too short

Hands: large/broad/thin/delicate, easily bent back, flabby/hard, dry/sweaty

Legs: long/short—relative to body

Knees: knock-kneed, knees form a hollow

Feet: pigeon-toed/pointed out, large/small, narrow/broad

Perception and movement

Senses: Go through all 12 senses and describe any peculiarities

Movements: gross and fine motor movements—characterize the movements if appropriate, such as a nervous, hoppy, placid, flighty, heavy, determined, tentative, abrupt, cautious, and so forth

Gait: toe/heel first touching floor, rhythmic/uneven, shuffle/springy

Dominance: determine left/right dominance in eye, ear, hand, and foot



Aspects

Related to the etheric body

Temperament: sanguine/melancholic/ choleric/
phlegmatic/mixed

Memory peculiarities: What is the relationship to
time? Always too slow, too fast, just right, or
rolling along (Time-relationship is an excellent
indication of temperament.)

Healthy/unhealthy looking, easily flushed/mostly
pale, low/ high pain threshold

Relationship to modeling: clay/beeswax

Related to the astral body

Characterize thinking/intellectual capacities:
picturing/abstract conceptualization/
relationships/sequence/logic/etc.

Characterize feeling and emotional capacities:
sensitive/insensitive, deep empathy/
callousness, tempers/always calm, cruel/
sympathetic

Characterize will nature: instinctive mode of action/
deliberate mode of action, follow through/
leaves things unfinished, difficult to start/
difficult to finish, gets stuck easily/able to ask
for help, able to plan action/always needs
guidance before beginning action, leader /
follower

Characterize imagination: strong/weak/bizarre/
artistic/visual

Social and ego relationships

What are the relationships and interactions
with classmates/siblings/parents/ teachers/
strangers?

What is the social behavior? Temperament?

What is the relationship to nature, to plants, to pets,
etc.?

What is the relationship to work: Does she/he take
responsibility? Does she/he take pride in good
work? in completion? In beautiful work?



Artistic capacities

Describe work in modeling/ drawing/painting/
music/speech/drama/eurythmy

Learning profile

Type of memory: visual/aural/tactile

Relationship to music: learn by imitation/by figuring
out by self/by being talked through/by acting
out the relevant patterns/by repetition