Using the Building Blocks of Brain Development to Understand and Assess Learning Disabilities

Module 4: Higher Order Processes

- Module 4.1 Social Emotional
 - Behavioral Impacts
 - Interpersonal conflict, misreading social cues
 - Difficulty making and keeping friends
 - Difficulty with emotional regulation
 - Emotional meltdowns
 - Group issues- parties, social gatherings
 - Anxiety, depression
 - Academic Impacts
 - Cognitive distortions
 - Difficulty with group learning/collaboration
 - Emotional preoccupation that interferes with academics
 - Trouble focusing
 - Difficulty with flexibility
 - Assessment Suggestions for Social Emotional Competency
 - Formal
 - NESPY-II: Social Perception Subtests
 - BASC-3
 - BRIEF2
 - CEFI
 - SSRS
 - TOPS-2
 - Informal
 - Observations
 - Records Review of discipline or office referrals
 - Parent, teacher, student interviews
 - Developmental history
 - Semi-Formal
 - NEF
 - Commercial Rating Scales
 - Self-Created Rating Scales
- Module 4.2 Executive Functioning

- Related to self-control, which impacts social competency, academic success, and related to other disorders
- Behavioral Impacts
 - Attention- ADHD behaviors are related to EF deficits
 - Initiation- does not start chores, tasks independently
 - Self-monitoring- makes same mistakes
 - Inflexibility- black and white thinking
 - Working Memory- cannot handle multiple steps
 - Organization/Planning- disorganized thoughts
 - Emotional/behavior control problems
- Academic Impacts
 - Initiation- does not start tasks independently
 - Self -monitoring- does not edit mistakes
 - Flexibility- difficulty switching classes/subjects
 - Working Memory- reading and math
 - Attention- incomplete work
 - Organization/Planning- missing assignments
 - Emotional/behavior control problems
- Assessment Suggestions for Social Emotional Competency
 - Formal
 - NEPSY-II EF Scale
 - BASC-3
 - BRIEF2
 - CEFI
 - CAS-2
 - Informal
 - Observations
 - Records Review of discipline or office referrals
 - Parent, teacher, student interviews
 - Developmental history
 - Semi-Formal
 - NEF
 - Commercial Rating Scales
 - Self-Created Rating Scales