

# Is Your Child Underachieving in School?



Discover your Child's Learning Needs  
to Unlock their Full Potential

## The School Learning Assessment

Is your child a good learner, or does he or she struggle to learn?

Work through this checklist and find out.

Most children have learning difficulties at some time during their school career? (*US Dept. Ed. 1995*) Is your child one of them?

Children are very good at disguising learning problems and it can be difficult to recognize the signs that your child is struggling to learn. However, if these signs are ignored, your child's learning difficulty may turn to a learning problem that is hard to fix.

Parents are often the first to notice the tell tale signs that indicate that a child is having a hard time in class, that he or she may have met a learning hurdle that they cannot get over on their own.

It is really important that you, the parent, understand what these signs are so that you can get your child the support he or she needs before a learning difficulty becomes a learning problem.

What follows are three lists of the most common signs that children are struggling to learn. One is about your child, one about you and one about your child's teacher.

By working through these checklists you will be able to decide if YOUR child is underachieving in school

Read the descriptions, decide how they apply to your child, and calculate your child's score.

Knowing if your child is underachieving is the first step to getting your child the help he or she needs, help that can mean the difference between success and failure in school.

<b>Your Child ...</b>	<b>Always</b>	<b>Some times</b>	<b>Never</b>
Says that school is boring			
Leaves schoolwork till the last minute			
Produces messy, untidy work			
Gets grades that are lower than you think he should be getting			
Say that they are stupid and cannot learn			
Leaves homework books at school			
Takes too long to finish homework			
Has few friends in school			
Is not happy in school			
Is always tired in the morning			
Doesn't seem to listen to you			
Is disorganized			
Is losing self confidence			
Insists that work has to be done perfectly			
Takes on the role of class clown			
Will not talk about what they did in class			
Gets minor aches and pains on school days			
Avoids doing school type work			
Tries hard but never seems to do well			
Is unwilling to read			
<b>Total</b>			

<b>You ....</b>	<b>Always</b>	<b>Some times</b>	<b>Never</b>
Have some concerns about your child's learning			
Think that your child might be lazy			
Have considered getting a tutor to help your child			
Think that your child could do better			
Are concerned about the grades your child gets			
Try to help with homework			
Wonder why your child is not doing as well as you expected			
Get frustrated with your child when he will not listen to your advice			
Know that your child is trying hard to do their work			
See your child getting frustrated and angry with homework assignments			
Spend hours trying to help your child do homework			
Do some of your child's homework for them			
Wonder what the teacher is teaching your child			
Know that your child is bright			
Wonder why your child is not learning well			
<b>Total</b>			

<b>Your child's teacher says he or she...</b>	<b>Always</b>	<b>Some times</b>	<b>Never</b>
Is doing as well as can be expected			
Needs to try harder			
Needs extra help			
Lacks focus			
Will soon catch up			
Doesn't finish their work on time			
Is slow to start work			
Could do better			
Needs to practice			
Must pay more attention in class			
<b>Total</b>			

**Final Totals** (sum of all three subtotals) \_\_\_\_\_

Add the totals for **'Always'** and **'Sometimes'** together to get your final score \_\_\_\_\_

**What your score means.**

**0 - 15** Congratulations! It looks like your child is doing well and he or she does not have a learning problem. If your child's grades start to slip, or he or she stops being an eager, happy student, you might want to find out what has changed, and what you can do to help.

**16 - 30** Your child is struggling to learn. He or she probably has a small learning difficulty that is stopping them reach their full learning potential. You need to find out what is causing the difficulty and fix it before a small difficulty becomes a big problem.

**31 - 45** Your child has a problem learning and needs your help now. You need to discover why your child is struggling to learn and how you can help before your child loses confidence in their ability to learn and stops trying to do well in school.

Go to [www.leadingtolearning.com](http://www.leadingtolearning.com) for free advice on how to support your child's education.

## About Patricia Porter

Dr. Patricia Porter is Learning Skill Assessment Specialist and highly sought after international speaker, educator and ambassador for maximizing children's learning potential.

After a 35 year teaching career, Dr. Porter founded Leading to Learning, a company based on her proprietary Path-Finder© Program, delivering in-person and online assessment and education for children aged 4-14.

Through her programs Patricia has helped hundreds of families better understand their children's learning needs. By providing a clear strategy tailored to the individual child, parents have peace of mind that their child now has a path to reach their true learning potential.