

ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENTS FOR EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING

LEARNING SUPPORT ACTIVITIES • TEACHER RESOURCE

Students with executive functioning challenges often understand the material but may struggle to organize, initiate, or complete traditional assessments. Alternative assessments provide multiple ways for students to demonstrate their ASL knowledge while maintaining the same learning objectives and high academic expectations.

Expressive ASL Assessments

- Record a signed response instead of completing lengthy written assignments.
- Demonstrate vocabulary individually with the teacher.
- Present short ASL conversations or stories.
- Complete expressive tasks in smaller segments.

Receptive ASL Assessments

- Use multiple-choice receptive quizzes.
- Complete picture-to-sign matching activities.
- Identify signs from short video clips.
- Sort vocabulary into appropriate categories.

Performance-Based Assessments

- Demonstrate ASL skills through role-play activities.
- Complete real-world communication tasks.
- Participate in teacher-guided demonstrations.
- Build projects over multiple class sessions when appropriate.

Flexible Assessment Options

- Break lengthy assessments into smaller sections.
- Allow additional planning and processing time.
- Use visual checklists during assessments when appropriate.
- Offer opportunities to complete assessments over multiple sessions.

Teacher Considerations

- Assess ASL knowledge—not organizational skills alone.
- Maintain the same learning objectives for every student.
- Provide clear expectations before each assessment.
- Focus on what students know rather than how quickly they complete tasks.

★ Key Takeaway

Alternative assessments should remove barriers related to planning, organization, and task management—not reduce academic expectations. When students are given multiple ways to demonstrate their ASL knowledge, teachers gain a more accurate picture of what they truly know and can do.