

Strengths in Families Worksheet

Parent-Child Relationship

To accurately assess the parent-child bond, it is important to know the attachment behaviors of the parent's culture. For example, what are appropriate verbal and nonverbal cues for this culture?

- | | Yes | No | Unsure |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The parent shows empathy for the child. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The parent responds appropriately to the child's verbal/nonverbal signals. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. The parent is able to put the child's needs ahead of their own. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. When they are together, the child shows comfort in the parent. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. The parent has raised the child for a significant period of time. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. In the past, the parent met the child's basic physical and emotional needs. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. The parent accepts some responsibility for the problems that brought the child to the attention of authorities. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. The parent uses positive, nonviolent discipline. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Parental Support System

These items reflect the quality of the parent's relationships with their current support system. Note that the ways in which support systems function may vary depending on culture.

- | | Yes | No | Unsure |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 9. The parent has positive, significant relationships with other healthy adults. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. The parent has a meaningful support system that can help him/her (e.g., church, job, counselor). | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. Extended family is nearby and capable of providing support | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Past Support System

This section identifies extended family and friendships that have been helpful in the past. If these supports have demonstrated healthy coping abilities in the past consistent with their cultural norms, this may be a resource for the family in the present as well.

- | | Yes | No | Unsure |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 12. Extended family history shows family members able to help appropriately when one member is not functioning well. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 13. Relatives came forward to offer help when the child needed placement. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 14. Relatives have followed through on commitments in the past. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 15. There are other adults, not blood relatives, who helped in the past. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. Other adults, not blood relatives, have followed through on commitments in the past. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Strengths in Families Worksheet (cont'd)

Family History

These items look at the parent's history and cultural heritage. To answer the first question, it is important to know to what extent the family has identified with and participated in its ethnic community.

- | | Yes | No | Unsure |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 17. The family's ethnic, cultural, or religious heritage includes an emphasis on mutual caretaking and shared parenting in times of crisis. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18. The parent's childhood history shows consistency of parental caretaker. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19. The parent's history shows evidence of their childhood needs being met adequately. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Parent's Self-Care

These items highlight the parent's ability to function in an adult-mode, according to the expectation of their culture.

- | | Yes | No | Unsure |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 20. The parent's general health is good. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21. The parent appropriately uses medical care for self. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22. The parent's hygiene and grooming are consistently adequate. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23. The parent has a history of stability in housing. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24. The parent has a solid employment history. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25. The parent has graduated from high school or possesses a GED. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 26. The parent has skills that contribute to employability. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Child's Development

These last five items focus on the functioning of the child. Behavior and social skills vary between cultures, so cultural knowledge is necessary.

- | | Yes | No | Unsure |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 27. The child shows age-appropriate cognitive abilities. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 28. The child demonstrates an age-appropriate attention-span. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29. The child shows evidence of conscience development. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 30. The child has appropriate social skills. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 31. Major behavioral problems are absent. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |