**Executive Function** 

OMB #: 0925-0661 OMB #: 0925-0661

Expiration Date: 06/30/2015

Name of test: Peg Tapping

**Estimated time burden:** 3 minutes **Estimated number of items:** 16 items

#### Materials:

A wooden dowel

## Description:

This widely used task requires children to tap twice with a wooden dowel when the administrator taps once and to tap once when the administrator taps twice. This task was first developed by Diamond & Taylor (1996) and is aimed to assess executive function.

# Script:

The examiner should sit at the table across from the child to administer this task.

Examiner says: "Now we are going to play a tapping game. This game has two rules. The first rule is that when I tap one time like this [E taps once], I want you to tap two times like this [E taps twice]. Let's try that. When I tap one time [E taps once], you tap ..." [The E hands the dowel to the child.

CORRECT → "Good job! Now let's learn another rule of this game."

INCORRECT → "Remember, if I tap one time like this [E taps once], I want you to tap two times like this [E taps twice]. Let's try again. If I tap one time [E taps once], you tap..." The E hands the dowel to the child. If still incorrect, go on.

"The second rule is that when I tap two times like this [E taps twice], I want you to tap one time like this [E taps once]. Let's try that. When I tap two times [E taps twice], you tap ..." [The E hands the dowel to the child].

CORRECT → "Good job!"

INCORRECT → "Remember, if I tap two times like this [E taps twice], I want you to tap one time like this [E taps once]. Let's try again. If I tap two times [E taps twice], you tap..." The E hands the dowel to the child. If still incorrect, go on.

"Let's try some more."

Proceed to the first pretest trial.

## **PRETEST TRIALS**

1. [E taps once and then hands the dowel to the child].

CORRECT → "Good job!"
INCORRECT → No feedback

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2. [E taps twice and then hands the dowel to the child].

CORRECT → "Good job!"
INCORRECT → No feedback

If child responded CORRECTLY to both pretest trials, start at trial 3 (skip "skip" trials). If child responded INCORRECTLY to one or both pretest trials, give rule reminders and proceed to skip trials.

### **RULE REMINDERS**

If child incorrectly responded on the FIRST pretest or BOTH pretests:

"Remember, if I tap one time like this [E taps once], I want you to tap two times like this [E taps twice]. And if I tap two times like this [E taps twice], I want you to tap one time like this [E taps once].

If child incorrectly responded on the SECOND pretest:

"Remember, if I tap two times like this [E taps twice], I want you to tap one time like this [E taps once]. And if I tap one time like this [E taps once], I want you to tap two times like this [E taps twice]."

The examiner administers 16 trials in the following order:

1, 2, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 2, 2, 1, 1, 2