

Table 5-2

## Combining Sensory Integration and Neuro-Developmental Treatment Approaches for Treating Children with Autism

Areas Needing Intervention	Treatment Goals and Activities	Treatment Approach
<p>Poor sensory modulation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vestibular—seeks large amounts of input</li> <li>• Proprioceptive—seeks input by pulling, jumping, pushing</li> <li>• Tactile—high sensitivity, poor discrimination</li> </ul>	<p>Normalize processing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide variety of input through purposeful activities while eliciting adaptive responses</li> <li>• Provide opportunities to obtain input through purposeful activities</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for experiencing deep pressure and vibration through purposeful activities, later move to tactile discrimination activities</li> </ul>	SI
<p>Poor postural control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low normal tone</li> <li>• Poor balance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate co-activation during activities that provide vestibular input while stopping and holding</li> <li>• Challenge equilibrium during functional activities that provide vestibular input, which is altered by slowing down, stopping, and holding</li> </ul>	NDT and SI
<p>Poor motor planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fails to recognize how to interact with a task</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a variety of sensory input during functional activities to increase awareness of body in relation to the environment; can start by passively moving through the task</li> <li>• Provide a variety of activities to increase repertoire of interactions</li> <li>• Use simple adaptive reactions and later move to more complex behavior</li> </ul>	SI and perceptual-motor approach
<p>Poor ideation and organization of behavior</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preference for sameness</li> <li>• Reduced spontaneity</li> <li>• Reduced flexibility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a choice of a variety of functional activities</li> <li>• Encourage active initiation and self-direction</li> <li>• Challenge child to produce adaptive responses (motor area, social area, cognitive area)</li> </ul>	SI