E-LAP™ & LAP-3™ Job Aid

Welcome

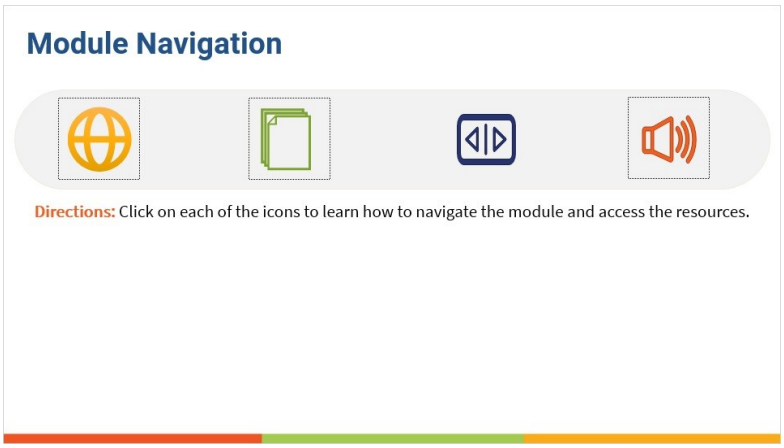


Notes:

This job aid is intended to help you to calculate a ceiling score, basal score, and developmental age for the Early Learning Accomplishment Profile (E-LAP™) and Learning Accomplishment Profile (LAP-3™) assessments. The procedure is the same regardless of the instrument used.

Last revised by CG: 09-15-2026

Navigation

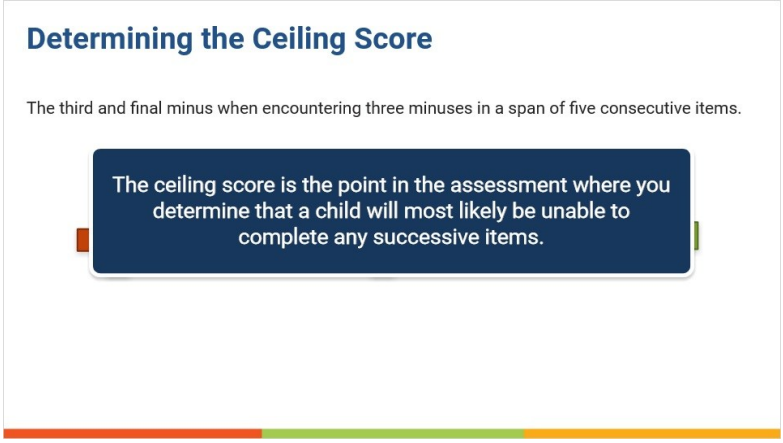


Notes:

If this is your first time participating in a learning module, please click on each of the icons to learn how to navigate and access resources.

E-LAP™ & LAP-3™ Job Aid

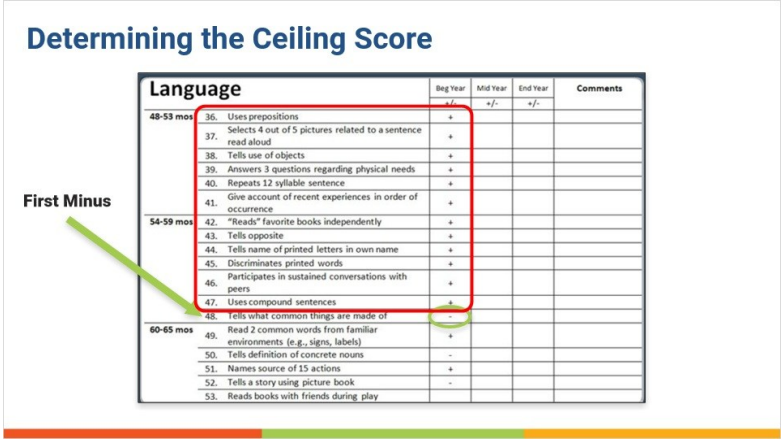
Determining the Ceiling Score



Notes:

The ceiling score is the point in the assessment where you determine that a child will most likely be unable to complete any successive items. The ceiling score is the third and final minus determined by encountering three minuses in a span of five consecutive items.

Determining the Ceiling Score

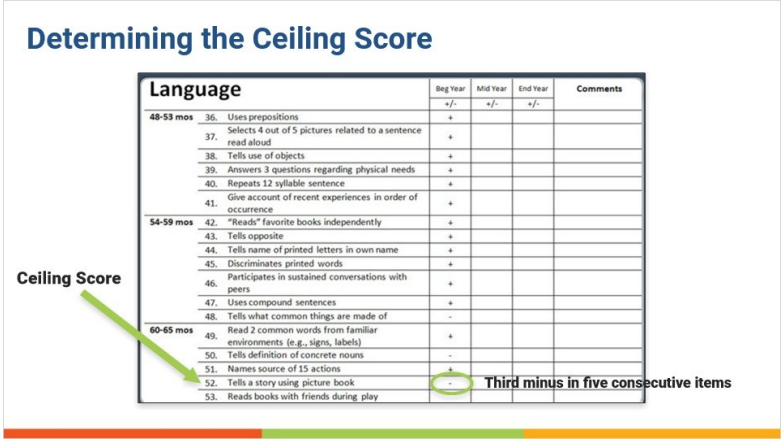


Notes:

In this example, the child was 50 months old at the time of assessment. You will notice that, in item 36 and continuing on to item 47, the child was able to successfully complete all of the tasks as outlined by the instrument.
During the administration of the assessment, it is important to note a minus score and track that in relation to the next four items.
The ceiling score is determined when the subject scores three minuses out of a span of five consecutive items.
In this example, number 48 was scored with a minus so pay close attention to what will happen between item number 48 and item number 52. If there are two more minuses for a total of three within those five items, then the ceiling score can be determined.

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Determining the Ceiling Score



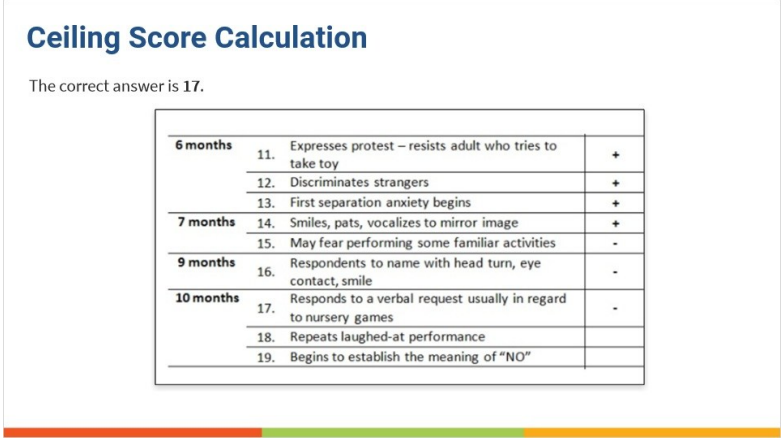
Notes:

In this example:
Item #48 is a minus.
Item #49 is a plus.
Item #50 is a minus.
Item #51 is a plus.

What happens with number 52 will determine whether you have reached the ceiling score. In this case, item number 52 is a minus.

Because there are three minus scores within five test items, then 52 is the ceiling score.

Ceiling Score Calculation

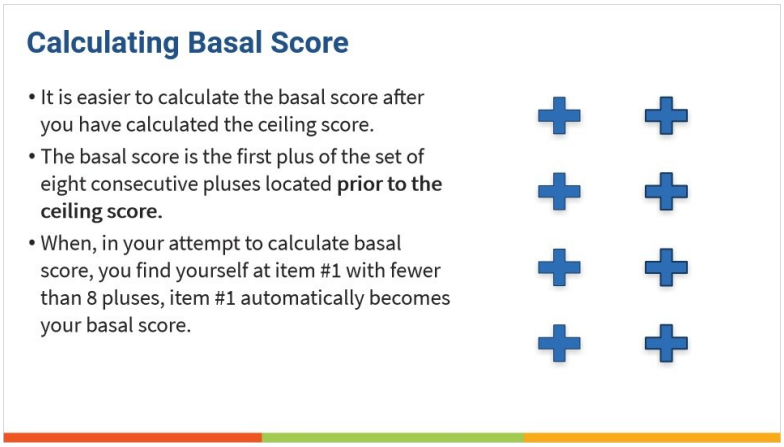


Notes:

The ceiling score is 17 because it is the third minus in five consecutive items.

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Calculating Basal Score

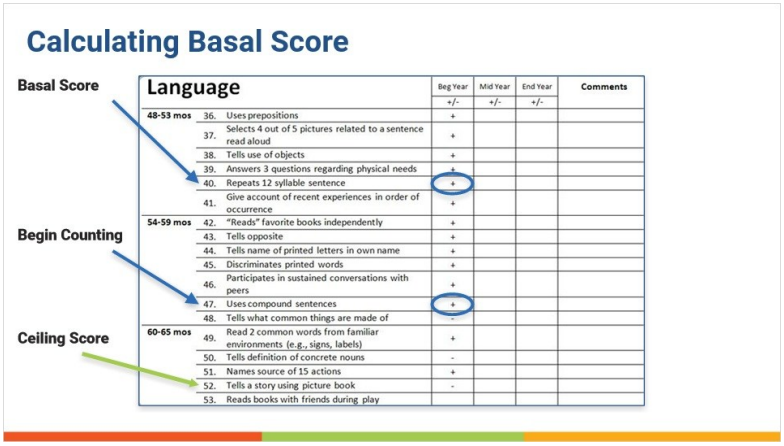


Notes:

The basal score is where you are assuming that a child would be able to do all of the previous items. The basal score is found by locating the first plus score out of a set of eight consecutive items a child could complete prior to the ceiling score. Therefore, it is easier to calculate the basal score after you have calculated the ceiling score.

Keep in mind that the basal score may or may not be where you actually started the assessment.

Calculating Basal Score



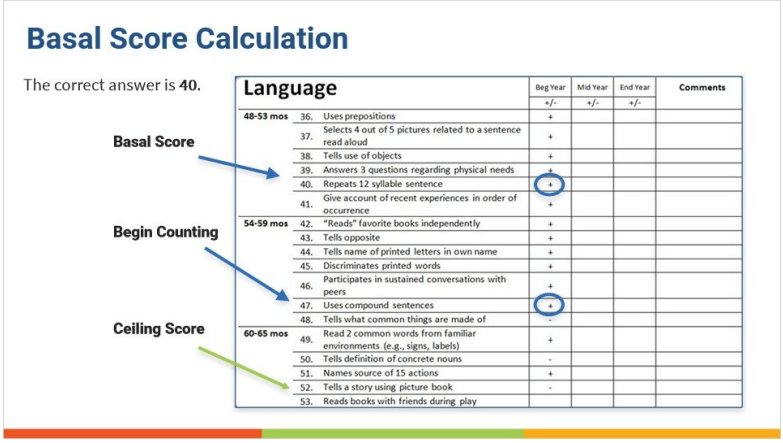
Notes:

Use the example provided to learn how to calculate the basal score. Item #52 is the ceiling score.

Begin to work backward counting the pluses until you've reached your eighth consecutive plus. Any time you encounter a minus, you will need to restart your count.
In the example shown, item #51 is the first plus, but since item #50 is a minus, you will need to restart at item #49. The same thing happens again since item #48 is a minus. Then, starting at item #47, count eight consecutive plusses to arrive at 40 as the basal score.

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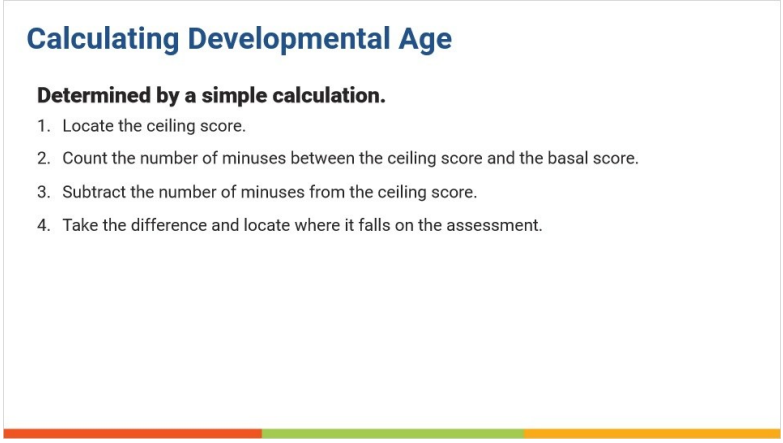
Basal Score Calculation



Notes:

The basal score is 40 because it is the first plus from the top of the set of eight consecutive pluses located prior to the ceiling score.

Calculating Developmental Age



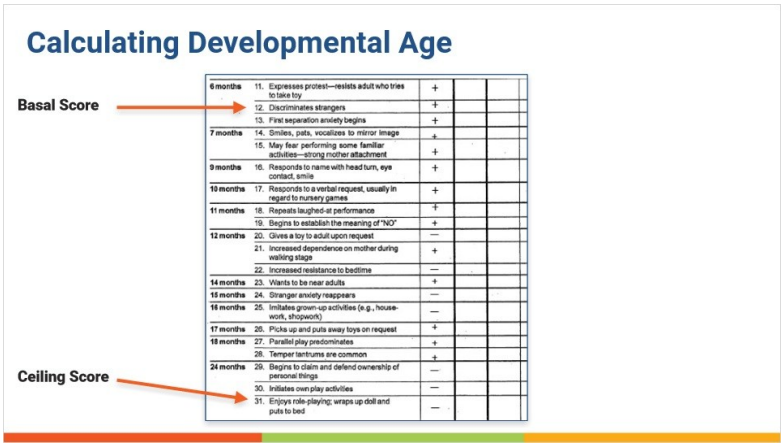
Notes:

You do not have to calculate developmental age; however, it yields valuable information about where a child is developmentally. Developmental age is determined by a simple calculation. First, locate the ceiling score. Next, count the number of minuses between the ceiling score and the basal score. Once you have this information, subtract the number of minuses from the ceiling score, and take the number yielded by the difference and locate where it falls on the assessment.

Developmental age is not necessarily something you would share with families. Many programs focus on sharing what things the child is able to do, what they should be working toward, and what things families can do to help them get there.

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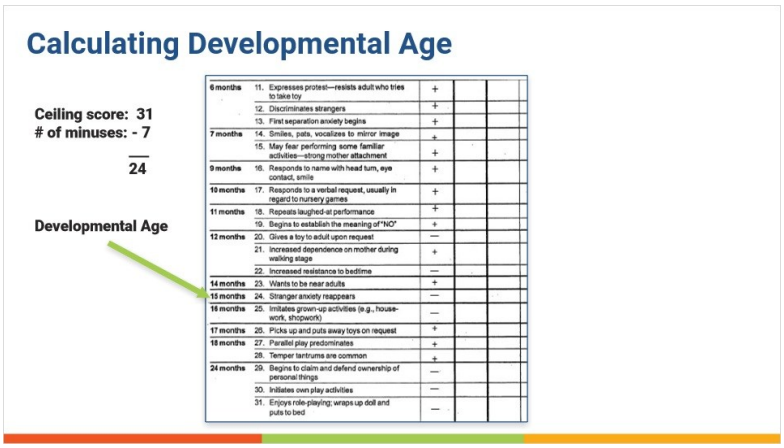
Calculating Developmental Age



Notes:

In the example provided, the child is 28 months of age. Item #31 is the ceiling score, and item #12 is the basal score. Between 31 and 12, there are SEVEN minuses.

Calculating Developmental Age

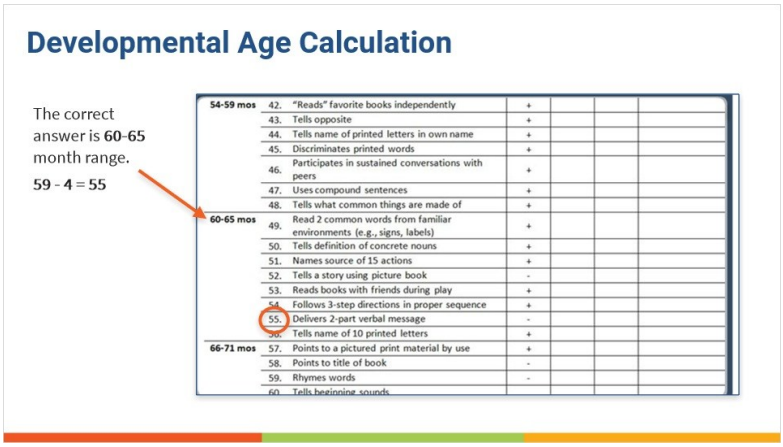


Notes:

Subtract the number of minuses (in this example, seven) from the ceiling score (31), to get 24. Item number 24 is in the 15-month age range. This child's developmental age in the social/emotional domain is 15 months.

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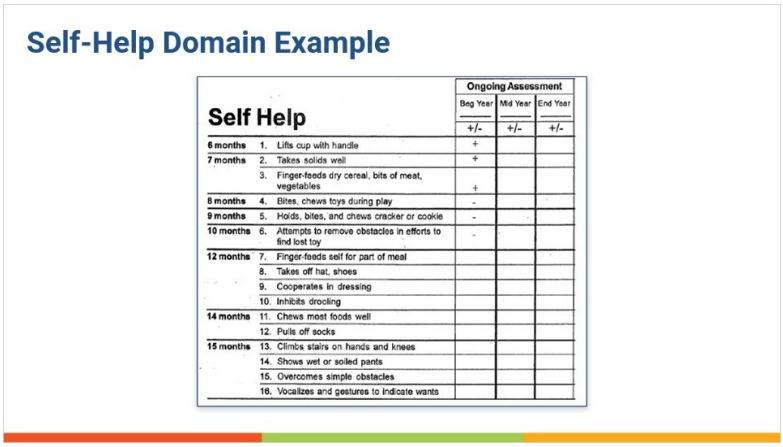
Developmental Age Calculation



Notes:

The ceiling score is 59, and there were four minuses. 59 – 4 results in a score of 55, and that falls in the 60-65 month range.

Self-Help Domain Example



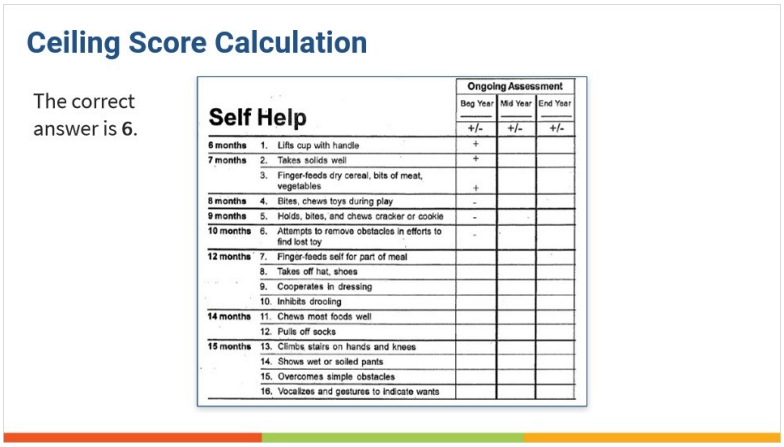
Notes:

This example is from the E-LAP™ in the self-help domain. This is the only domain which does not start at one month of age. You are not required to score children that are younger than six months in the self-help domain.

The following slides will prompt you to calculate the ceiling score, basal score and developmental age.

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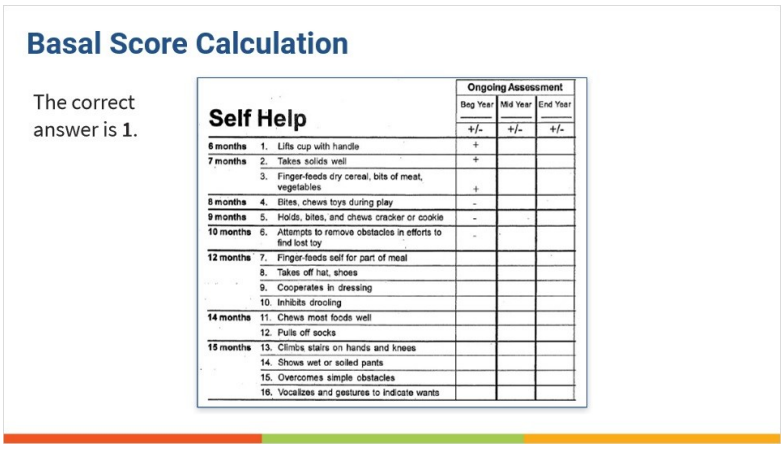
Ceiling Score Calculation



Notes:

The correct ceiling score is 6 because the third minus was scored on item #6.

Basal Score Calculation

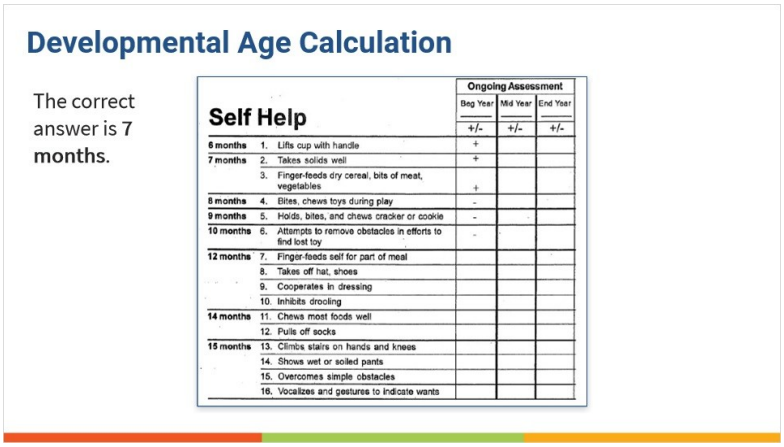


Notes:

When in your attempt to calculate basal score, you find yourself at item number 1 with fewer than eight pluses, item number 1 automatically becomes your basal score.

E-LAP™ & LAP-3™ Job Aid

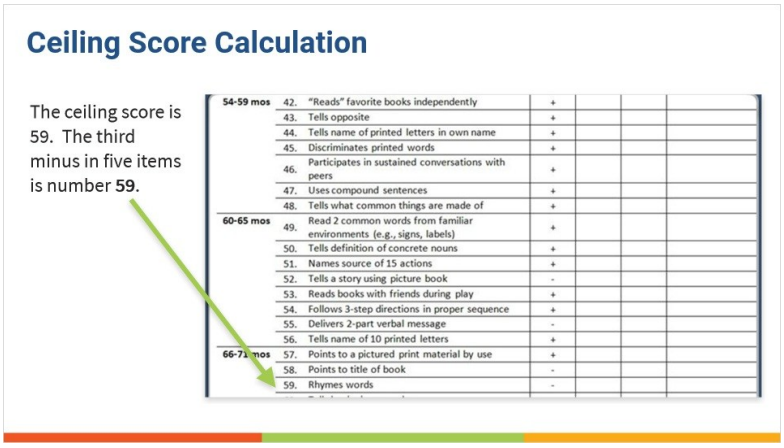
Developmental Age Calculation



Notes:

There are three minuses between the ceiling score and basal score. Subtract 3 from 6, the difference is 3. Locate 3 on the assessment to find seven-month age range. Therefore, this child's developmental age in the self-help domain is seven months.

Ceiling Score Calculation

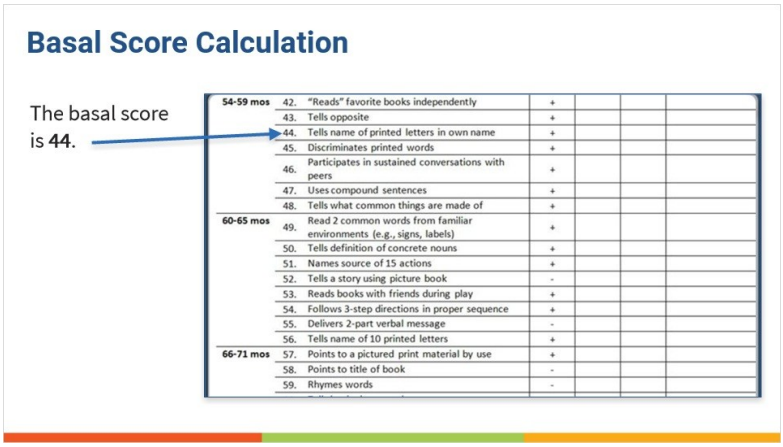


Notes:

Note the ceiling score is 59. The third minus in five items is number 59.

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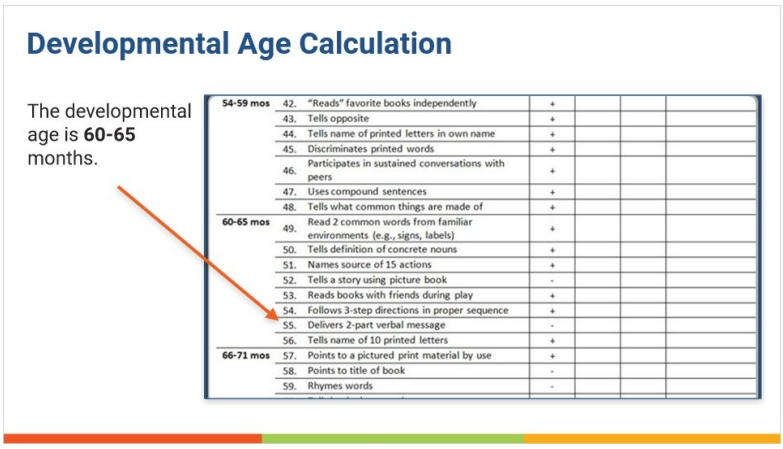
Basal Score Calculation



Notes:

Start with item #52 and count backward and reach eight consecutive pluses, reaching item #44.

Developmental Age Calculation

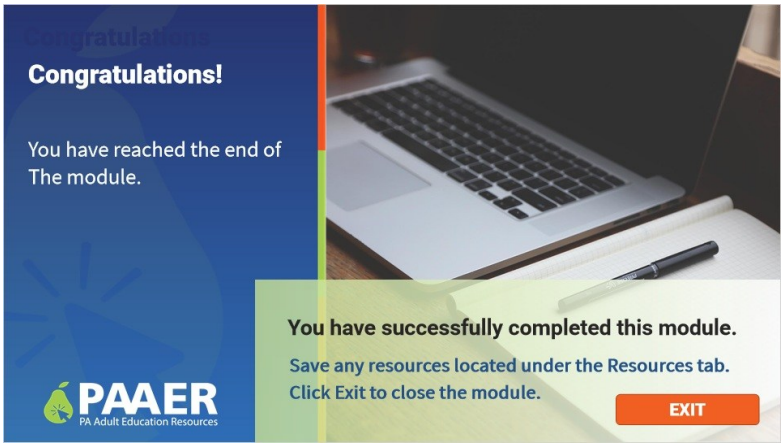


Notes:

The ceiling score is 59, and there are four minuses between the ceiling score and the basal score of 44. Subtract 4 from 59 for a difference of 55. 55 falls in the 60- to 65 month age range.

E-LAP™ & LAP-3™ Job Aid

1.31 End



Notes:

Congratulations! You have completed this module. Be sure to download any resources you want to save by clicking on the Resources tab. Click on the Exit button below to close the module.