

Sarah is a 3-year-old little girl who lives with her foster parents. She visits with her mother and father for short 2- to 3-hour time blocks about 3 times a week and stays over-night once a week. Sarah has normal language development, although she rarely talks. She most often uses gestures and a few signs. Although Sarah is toilet-trained, she has several nighttime accidents a week.

Sarah's foster parents report that Sarah seems to be very sad, quiet, and plays alone most of the time. She will interact with adults if rocked or sitting in an adult's lap. When Sarah visits with her parents, she comes home with a very small appetite and has very restless nights, waking 3-4 times a night crying. When this happens, her foster mother will lay with her until she falls asleep again. Sarah's foster parents will often find her playing under tables or in her closet.

At preschool, Sarah seems to be socially isolated and weepy. She doesn't really talk much during school. Her teacher reports that Sarah plays under furniture during centers. During arrival and dismissal times, Sarah cries. She will sometimes cry throughout the day. Teachers can console her if they rock her or hold her.