

CHILD ADJUSTMENT SCALE

Parent Report

The *Child Adjustment Scale* (Santrock & Warshak, 1979) is a 35-item measure of children's socioemotional adjustment that utilizes a 4-point response scale. The measure includes four scales: Peer Relations (13 items) Work Habits (9 items), Emotional Health (6 items), and Compliance (3 items). The Study of Promising After-School Programs used 33 items with a modified response scale. Most of the items were modified in order to simplify the language.

Citation

Santrock, J. W., & Warshak, R. A. (1979). Father custody and social development in boys and girls. *Journal of Social Issues*, 35, 112-125.

Administration

Fall 2003

Spring 2005

Items

1. teases others
2. is easily distracted
3. is popular
4. talks back to adults
5. is happy
6. shares with others
7. threatens others
8. is alert
9. is helpful to others
10. solves problems on his or her own
11. listens when others are talking
12. is afraid of new things
13. takes part in activities
14. hits other kids
15. ignores other people
16. respects other people's things
17. is talkative around others
18. keeps trying when playing games that are hard
19. is unhappy
20. takes turns
21. fights with others
22. is loving
23. tattles on others
24. is shy
25. is slow at learning new subjects at school
26. quits working on a job when problems come up
27. is organized
28. is good at sports
29. likes doing things with friends instead of family
30. is hard to discipline
31. wants to do well in school
32. disobeys adults
33. works well without the help of adults

Response scale

- 1 = hardly ever
 2 = not usually
 3 = in-between
 4 = usually
 5 = almost always

Scoring

Mean item scores

Peer Relations = 12 items: 1-reversed, 3, 6, 7-reversed, 9, 11, 14-reversed, 15-reversed, 17, 20, 21-reversed, 23-reversed

Work Habits = 9 items: 2-reversed, 8, 10, 18, 25-reversed, 26-reversed, 27, 31, 33

Emotional Health = 6 items: 5, 12-reversed, 13, 19-reversed, 22, 24-reversed

Compliance = 3 items: 4-reversed, 30-reversed, 32-reversed

Psychometrics

	<i>N</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Range	Alpha
Elementary: Fall 2003					
Work habits	1486	3.83	0.62	1-5	.75
Peer relations	1477	4.12	0.46	1.91-5	.64
Emotional health	1474	4.08	0.53	1-5	.48
Compliance	1507	4.24	0.85	1-5	.72
Middle: Fall 2003					
Work habits	950	3.80	0.65	1.33-5	.79
Peer relations	954	4.09	0.48	1.92-5	.71
Emotional health	952	3.97	0.56	2-5	.54
Compliance	969	4.06	0.92	1-5	.75

	<i>N</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Range	Alpha
Elementary: Spring 2005					
Work habits	981	3.91	0.61	1.44-5	.78
Peer relations	981	4.17	0.46	2.73-5	.70
Emotional health	981	4.08	0.52	1.83-5	.52
Compliance	996	4.22	0.80	1-5	.71
Middle: Spring 2005					
Work habits	526	3.87	0.62	1.56-5	.79
Peer relations	527	4.14	0.47	2.17-5	.76
Emotional health	527	3.99	0.58	1.17-5	.66
Compliance	535	4.08	0.92	1-5	.80