

CHILD BEHAVIOR SCALE

Elementary & Middle Program Staff Report

The *Child Behavior Scale* (Ladd & Profilet, 1996) is a measure of children's aggressive, withdrawn, and prosocial behaviors. The Study of Promising After-School Programs utilized 17 items to form two scales, Aggressive with Peers and Prosocial with Peers, consistent with those used in the NICHD Study of Early Child Care and Youth Development, with a modified response scale (original: 1 = doesn't apply, 2 = applies sometimes, 3 = certainly applies). Items were reworded to refer to other students rather than classmates.

Citation

Ladd, G. W., & Profilet, S. M. (1996). The Child Behavior Scale: A teacher-report measure of young children's aggressive, withdrawn, and prosocial behaviors. *Developmental Psychology*, 32(6), 1008-1024.

Administration

Fall 2003

Spring 2004

Spring 2005

Items

1. Tends to react to other students' distress by teasing them or making things worse
2. Seems concerned when other students are distressed
3. Is an aggressive child
4. Taunts and teases other students
5. Threatens other students
6. Is kind toward students
7. Listens to students
8. Compromises in conflicts with students
9. Is cooperative with students
10. Loses temper easily in conflicts with students
11. Argues with students
12. Is friendly toward other students
13. Annoys or irritates other students
14. Disrupts students' activities
15. Shows concern for moral issues (e.g. fairness, welfare of others)
16. Offers help or comfort when other students are upset
17. Will continue to bother or hurt other students even when they are clearly upset

Response scale

0 = not true

1 = sometimes true

2 = often true

Scoring

Mean item scores

Aggressive with Peers = 9 items: 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 13, 14, 17

Prosocial with Peers = 8 items: 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 15, 16

Psychometrics

	<i>N</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Range	Alpha
Elementary: Fall 2003					
Aggressive with peers	792	0.31	0.43	0-2	.92
Prosocial with peers	793	1.38	0.44	0-2	.88
Middle: Fall 2003					
Aggressive with peers	444	0.24	0.35	0-1.56	.90
Prosocial with peers	436	1.40	0.45	0.13-2	.90

	<i>N</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Range	Alpha
Elementary: Spring 2004					
Aggressive with peers	813	0.34	0.45	0-2	.93
Prosocial with peers	812	1.36	0.45	0-2	.89
Middle: Spring 2004					
Aggressive with peers	425	0.28	0.41	0-2	.93
Prosocial with peers	425	1.40	0.50	0-2	.93

	<i>N</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	Range	Alpha
Elementary: Spring 2005					
Aggressive with peers	636	0.31	0.43	0-2	.92
Prosocial with peers	636	1.41	0.47	0-2	.91
Middle: Spring 2005					
Aggressive with peers	256	0.25	0.40	0-2	.92
Prosocial with peers	256	1.44	0.49	0-2	.92

Validity

Ladd & Profilet (1996) reported significant correlations of the two scales with observational ratings of children's aggressive behavior (Prosocial with Peers, $r = -.19, p < .01$; Aggressive with Peers $r = .39, p < .001$) and prosocial behavior (Prosocial $r = .23, p < .01$; Aggressive $r = -.19, p < .01$) during free play periods at school, and with aggression (Prosocial $r = -.45, p < .001$; Aggressive $r = .71, p < .001$) and withdrawal (Prosocial $r = -.35, p < .001$; Aggressive $r = .08, ns$) scores on the Teacher Report Form, the teacher version of Achenbach's Child Behavior Checklist.