

FEELINGS ABOUT SCHOOL

References

Essex, M. (1997). *Children's feelings about school questionnaire*. Unpublished questionnaire, Wisconsin Study of Families and Work, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Wulfsohn, S. (2000). Children's adjustment to first grade: Contributions of children's temperament, positive mothering, and positive fathering (Doctoral dissertation, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2000). *Dissertation Abstracts International*, 61, 2800.

Secondary Reference

Watson, D., Clark, L. A., & Tellegen, A. (1988). Development and validation of brief measures of positive and negative affect: The PANAS scales. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 54(6), 1063-1070.

Description

Feelings about School is a 24-item measure of positive and negative affect regarding school. It was developed by Essex (1997) based on the *Positive and Negative Affect Schedule* (Watson et al., 1988) as a questionnaire for administration to mothers, to tap children's affective states about school. Each item is rated on a 4-point scale ranging from 1 = *not at all* to 4 = *a lot* to indicate the extent to which the child expresses the indicated affect. Wulfsohn (2000) modified the measure further for telephone administration to mothers, and for administration to children.

Administration: Grade 1

This measure was administered as an interview to mothers near the beginning ($n = 93$) and end ($n = 96$) of Grade 1 by telephone, and to children ($n = 101$) during a site-specific home visit at the end of Grade 1, for Samantha Wulfsohn's dissertation research.

Scoring: Wulfsohn (2000)

Note that there are items on all versions of *Feelings about School* that Wulfsohn did not score. Items 2, 3, & 5 on the parent report at the beginning of the year are data-entered as *not at all* = 1, *a little* = 2, *somewhat* = 3, *quite a bit* = 4. Items 1 & 4 are entered as they appear on the form.

Positive Feelings about School

A higher score indicates more positive affect about school.

Start of school year: mean of items 3b, 3g, 3j, 3l, 3p, 3r, 3t, 3u

Mother report = **MG1FSSP**

$N = 93, M = 3.44, SD = 0.65, \text{range} = 1.00-4, \alpha = .91$

End of school year, mother: mean of items 2, 7, 10, 12, 16, 18, 20, 21

Mother report = **MG1FSEP**

$N = 96, M = 3.56, SD = 0.49, \text{range} = 1.50-4, \alpha = .91$

End of school year, child: mean of items 2, 7, 10, 12, 16, 18, 20

Child report = **CHG1FSEP**

$N = 101, M = 3.13, SD = 0.77, \text{range} = 1.00-4, \alpha = .80$

Negative Feelings about School

A higher score indicates more negative affect about school.

Start of school year: mean of items 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e, 3f, 3i, 3k, 3m, 3n, 3o, 3q, 3s

Mother report = **MG1FSSN**

$N = 93, M = 1.44, SD = 0.39, \text{range} = 1.00\text{-}3.00, \alpha = .82$

End of school year, mother: mean of items 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19

Mother report = **MG1FSEN**

$N = 96, M = 1.34, SD = 0.38, \text{range} = 1.00\text{-}2.83, \alpha = .84$

End of school year, child: mean of items 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19

Child report = **CHG1FSEN**

$N = 101, M = 2.02, SD = 0.69, \text{range} = 1.00\text{-}3.92, \alpha = .85$

Analysis Data Set

SSG1

Raw Data Sets

Mother report, start of Grade 1: M1GFSSF

Mother report, end of Grade 1: M1GFSS

Child report, end of Grade 1: C1GFSS