The Pictorial Scale of
Perceived Competence and Acceptance
for Young Children

Plates — First and Second Grades, Female
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1981

University of Denver

INSTRUCTIONS

The child is given a sample item at the beginning of the booklet and instructed as follows:

I have something here that's kind of like a picture game and it's called WHICH GIRL IS THE MOST LIKE ME. I'm going to tell you about what each of the girls in the picture is doing.

Sample: In *this* one (examiner then points to picture on the left), this girl is usually kind of happy, and this girl (examiner points to the picture on the right) is usually kind of sad. Now, I want you to tell me which of these girls is the most like (Child’s Name).

After the child has pointed to the picture appropriate for her, the examiner points to the circles directly below that picture and emphasizes the key qualifying words to help the child refine her choice further. The examiner should always start with the extreme (larger) circle and proceed to the smaller circle. Thus, if the child points to the happy picture in response to the question concerning which is most like her, the examiner would say:

*Are you always happy? (pointing to the larger circle)*

*Or are you usually happy? (pointing to smaller circle)*

Occasionally a child will point to the middle of the two pictures and say that both are like her. The examiner should then say: Yes, sometimes we do feel both ways, but if you had to pick, which one of these girls is the way you are most of the time, which one would you choose?

The number value corresponding to the child’s choice should be recorded on the Scoring Sheet for Individual Child Responses. Any comments should be recorded in the space provided at the bottom of the sheet.

The examiner continues for each plate, reading the descriptions, verbatim, as she/he points to the picture accompanying each description. In some pictures there is a target child central to the description, designated by an arrow pointing to that child. Be certain that on these items you point to that particular child.
Are you always sad? OR Usually sad. Are you usually kind of sad? OR This girl is usually kind of happy. Are you always happy? OR Usually happy.
ITEM 1

1. Not too good at numbers
2. Sort of good
3. Pretty good
4. Really good

Are you:
This girl is pretty good at numbers.
This girl is not very good at numbers.
This girl is really good at numbers.
ITEM 2

This girl has lots of friends to play with. Do you have:

A whole lot of friends to play with

Pretty many

A few

Hardly any friends

4

3

2

1
ITEM 4

Always let you eat over OR
This girl's mom usually lets her eat dinner at friend's houses.

Usually

Sometimes
This girl's mom usually doesn't let her eat dinner at friend's houses.

Hardly ever let you eat over OR
ITEM 5

This girl doesn't know very many things in school.

Do you know:

1. Hardly anything
2. A few things
3. Pretty many things
4. Know a whole lot of things

OR

This girl knows lots of things in school.
ITEM 6

Do: A whole lot of kids share OR Pretty many kids share their toys with this girl

Pretty many kids share their toys with this girl

A few kids share OR Hardly any kids share their toys with this girl

A few kids share their toys with this girl
1. Not very good at climbing.
2. Sort of good.
3. Pretty good.
4. Really good at climbing.

Are you: This girl isn't very good at climbing.
ITEM 8

This girl's mom takes her to a lot of places she likes to go.
Does your mom take you:

A whole lot of places you like to go

OR

A few places

OR

Not very many places you like to go

1

2

3

4
This girl isn't very good at reading by herself.
Are you:
Not very good at reading by yourself.
OR
Sort of good

This girl is pretty good at reading by herself.
Are you:
Pretty good
OR
Really good at reading by yourself.
Do you have:

1. Games with hardly any friends to play
2. A few
3. Pretty many OR A lot of friends to play games with

This girl doesn't have a lot of friends to play games with.

ITEM TO
4. Really good at bouncing the ball. OR

3. Pretty good. OR

2. Sort of good. OR

1. Not too good at bouncing the ball. OR

Are you: This girl is pretty good at bouncing the ball. OR This girl isn't very good at bouncing the ball.
ITEM 12

This girl's mom cooks a lot of the foods she likes. Does your mom ever cook the foods you like?
ITEM 13

1. Writing words
   OR
   Not very good at

2. Sort of good

3. Pretty good
   OR
   Really good at
   Writing words

4. Are you:
   This girl isn't very good at writing words.
Do you have:

This girl has lots of friends to play with on the playground.

This girl doesn't have very many friends to play with on the playground.

ITEM 14
1. Not too good at skipping, OR sort of good.

2. You, or this girl isn't very good at skipping.

3. Pretty good, OR really good at skipping.

4. Are you this girl is pretty good at skipping.
This girl's mom reads to her a little.
Does your mom read to you:

1. Hardly ever

OR

2. Sometimes

OR

3. Pretty much

OR

4. A whole lot

ITEM 16
CAT

DOG

BOY

GIRL
ITEM 18

Do you:

1. Hardly ever get asked to play.
2. Sometimes
3. Usually
4. Always get asked to play.

This girl usually gets asked to play with the other kids. This girl gets lonely sometimes because the other kids don’t ask her to play.
ITEM 19

1. Not very fast
2. Sort of fast
3. Pretty fast
4. Really fast

OR

This girl can run pretty fast.

Or

This girl can't run very fast.

Are you:
Hardly ever

OR

Sometimes

Pretty much

OR

A whole lot

Does your mom let you stay over?

This girl’s mom usually lets her stay overnight at friends’ houses.

This girl’s mom usually doesn’t let her stay overnight at friends’ houses.

ITEM 20
ITEM 21

Not very good at adding OR Sort of good

Pretty good OR Really good

Are you:

This girl isn't very good at adding numbers.

This girl is pretty good at adding numbers.
ITEM 22
ITEM 23

1. Not very good at jump rope
   Are you: This girl isn't very good at jump rope.

2. Sort of good

3. Pretty good

4. Really good
   Are you: This girl is pretty good at jump rope.
ITEM 24

This girl's mom likes to talk with her a little.

Does your mom talk with you a lot?

Sometimes OR

Pretty much OR

A whole lot

Hardly ever