



Ages & Stages Questionnaires® (ASQ) A Parent-Completed, Child-Monitoring System, *Third Edition*

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--Fast Facts--

Time to administer: Questionnaires take only 10-15 minutes for parents or caregivers to complete. Scoring by professionals takes 2-3 minutes.

Developmental areas addressed: Communication, gross motor, fine motor, problem solving, and personal-social.

Age range: Questionnaires can be administered at all or some of the following intervals: 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 27, 30, 33, 36, 42, 48, 54, and 60 months of age.

Method of administration: Parents and caregivers can fill out questionnaires with or without professional assistance. The **ASQ** system also can be adapted to a variety of settings, including primary care clinics, child care settings, and teen parenting programs.

Administration: Each questionnaire is made up of a title page with instructions, an information sheet for identification, 30 simply worded activities — 6 for each of the 5 developmental areas, and an information summary sheet for scoring and general comments. Using a simple scoring method, professionals can easily spot general weaknesses or serious concerns in any area and make recommendations for further evaluation on an as-needed basis.

Parent involvement: The **ASQ** system relies on parents to observe their child and to complete the simple questionnaires about their child's abilities. Having parents complete the developmental questionnaires enhances the accuracy of the screening process because of the variety and array of information parents have about their children. In addition, using parent-completed tools fulfills the spirit of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Amendments of 1997, which call for parents to be partners in their child's assessment and intervention activities.

Parent-friendliness: Activities on the **ASQ** questionnaires can be easily observed by parents and are likely to occur in a home setting. Activities have been carefully selected for cultural sensitivity. Each questionnaire item is written in simple, straightforward language (at a 6th-grade reading level), illustrations are provided when possible, and concrete examples are included.

Technical aspects: Comparisons of validity were made using the Revised Gesell Developmental Schedules, the Bayley Scales of Infant Development, the Stanford-Binet Intelligence Scale, the McCarthy Scales of Children's Abilities, and the Battelle Developmental Inventory. Overall agreement across questionnaires was 83%, reaching 91% with the 36-month questionnaire. All studies of reliability have exceeded 90% agreement. Sensitivity and specificity studies are also high across questionnaire intervals and standardized assessments.

The ASQ:SE: Created in response to feedback for the Ages & Stages Questionnaires®, the ASQ:SE is an easy-to-use tool with an exclusive focus on children's social and emotional behavior. This research-validated screening system helps home visitors, educators, caregivers, and service providers assess children's social-emotional development at 6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 48, and 60 months of age. With the results, professionals can quickly recognize young children at risk for social or emotional difficulties, identify behaviors of concern to caregivers, and identify any need for further assessment. (*Ages & Stages Questionnaire®: Social-Emotional (ASQ:SE) A Parent-Completed, Child-Monitoring System for Social-Emotional Behaviors* by Jane Squires, Ph.D., Diane Bricker, Ph.D., & Elizabeth Twombly, M.S., with assistance from Suzanne Yockelson, Maura Schoen Davis, & Younhee Kim.)