

Brief Summary of the ASB-C

What Is It?

The Assessment of Sexual Behavior-Child Version (ASB-C) is a caregiver-report instrument that asks a caregiver to report the frequency with which a child (ages 3-12) performed 38 separate sexual behaviors over the past month. The items include both typical and problematic forms of sexual behavior.

Is it Valid and Reliable?

Yes. The ASB-C was tested in three separate samples that collectively included over 1,700 children/caregivers. The normative sample was nationally representative, the psychometric characteristics are strong, and results are available in the ASB-C manual.

What Information Does It Provide?

The ASB-C includes several items that describe behaviors that are themselves problematic (e.g., “critical items”). Also, a total score can be calculated to determine if the overall frequency of the child’s behaviors exceeds what is typical for a given age.

Is It Easy to Score and Interpret?

Yes. Scoring instructions are available on the other side of this page. It was designed to be easy to administer, score, and interpret by clinicians in community practice.

How Much Does It Cost?

The use of the ASB-C is free for clinicians and researchers.

How do I Explain it to Caregivers?

“This checklist asks about various sexual behaviors children may display. Some behaviors are relatively common among children while others are rarer. We give this measure in the interests of being thorough in our assessment and recognize that many of the items on this measure won’t be relevant to many families. If there are any items that you are concerned about, we can discuss them. Also, I may ask follow-up questions afterwards to help me better your answers.”

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ASB-C Scoring Summary

Total Score:

To calculate the Total Score - add all the scores for the 38 items together. To find out where this score falls on the continuum of sexual behavior (Typical/Expected, Concerning, or Problematic), find the row that matches the age of the child and then find the column or score range within which the Total Score falls.

Age group	Typical/Expected	Concerning	Problematic
3-5 years	0-10	11	12-152
6-9 years	0-6	7-10	11-152
10-12 years	0-5	6-9	10-152

Critical Items:

These behaviors are rare (less than 1% of children) and are considered potentially problematic when present. Critical items should be reviewed and directly addressed.

#	Question
16.	Looks at pictures or videos of violent, aggressive, and/or extreme sex acts.
20.	Inserts or tries to insert objects inside <i>own</i> private parts.
22.	Shows picture(s) of their own or other people's private parts to others.
23.	Asks others to show their private parts or engage in sexual acts while talking in-person .
24.	Sends sexual messages, pictures, and/or videos to others (such as through email, texts, social media).
25.	Asks others to send them pictures or videos showing nudity or sexual acts (such as through email, texts, social media).
26.	Coerces others to send sexual pictures or videos.
27.	Threatens to share sexual pictures or videos of others.
29.	Rubs private parts on other people.
31.	Touches or tries to touch the private parts of others
32.	Puts mouth on the breasts or private parts of others.
33.	Inserts or tries to insert objects in <i>another child's</i> private parts
34.	Tries to undress others against their will.
35.	Plans to get others to engage in sexual behavior.
36.	Coerces others to engage in sexual behavior.
37.	Performs sexual behaviors with an animal.
38.	Continues to engage in sexual behavior after being told to stop.

Scoring Process:

1. Calculate the Total Score and determine where it falls for the age of the child.
2. Identify "Critical Items" endorsed by caregiver.
3. Integrate presence of critical items (clinically give more weight) with total summed score for an overall clinical impression.
4. Integrate findings with the other aspects of the evaluation (interviews, measures)
5. Provide everyday language feedback and engage in shared treatment planning.