Social Development (Ages 8-9)

**Instrument:** Ansell Casey Life Skills Assessment I (ACLSA-I) - Youth

**Scale/Subscale Name:** Social Development (inappropriately labeled Communication in larger instrument)

**Source:** [http://www.caseylifeskills.org/pages/assess/assess_printable.htm](http://www.caseylifeskills.org/pages/assess/assess_printable.htm) (Paper)

**Developers:** Casey Family Programs, 1300 Dexter Avenue North, Floor 3 Seattle, WA 98109-3542, Phone: 206.282.7300, Fax: 206.282.3555

**Year:** 2009, (Version 4.0)

**Target Audience(s):** Children: ages 8 and 9

**Language other than English available:** Spanish, French

**Type:** Behavior

**Data collected:** Quantitative

**Data collection format:** Self report – Pre/post

**Reading Level:** Flesch-Kincaid Grade level: Not available

**Existence of test/technical manuals, user guides, supplemental materials:** User guide, see reference

**Level of training necessary for administration/scoring/interpretation:** None necessary for administration. Minimal knowledge of measurement needed for scoring and interpretation.

**Widespread Use/Professional Endorsements:** Widely utilized tool, especially for at-risk, disability and foster care populations; frequently listed as a recommended tool for transition planning assessment; frequently cited in literature.

**Cost of Use:** No costs associated with the use of this instrument.
Description:
- The ACLSA is a measure of life skills acquisition, available in youth self-report and caregiver report formats.
- The assessment consists of four developmental levels: ACLSA-I (ages 8-9), ACLSA-II (ages 10-12), ACLSA-III (ages 13-15), and ACSLA-IV (ages 16 and older).
- The youth format contains items to measure self-reported knowledge and behaviors, as well as a brief performance section to test actual knowledge of life skills.
- The caregiver form asks a parent or other adult to rate the youth on the same set of knowledge and behavior items used in the youth self-report. The caregiver form does not have a performance section. There is no caregiver form for ACLSA-IV.
- The ACLSA takes about 20 to 30 minutes to complete, depending on the ACLSA level and reading level of the respondent.
- Paper or on-line versions, 39 (instrument), 10 (Social subscale), 3-pt Likert items; on-line version—automatic scoring and report, paper version—hand-scoring guide available from developer.
- The ACLSA, version 4.0, is composed of five to six domains, depending on ACLSA level. The domains include: Communication, Self-Care, Social Relationships, Work Life, Housing & Money Management and Daily Living. Within a domain, items tap a variety of skills and practical knowledge.

Psychometrics:
Information on reliability and validity are provided below. If information on a particular psychometric was not found, it is indicated as “no information provided.” It should be noted that this is not necessarily an indication of a lack of reliability or validity within a particular scale/instrument, but rather a lack of rigorous testing, for various reasons, by the developers or other researchers.

Psychometric information is based on previous version of instrument--ACLSA, 3.0.

Reliability: A correlation of at least .80 is suggested for at least one type of reliability as evidence; however, standards range from .5 to .9 depending on the intended use and context for the instrument.

Internal Consistency: Overall alpha--.80; domains range from 0.65 to 0.72.
Inter-Rater Reliability: No information provided
Test-Retest: None of the t-tests were statistically significant.
Validity: The extent to which a measure captures what it is intended to measure.

Content/Face Validity: Comprehensive description of content (life skills) domain and development process; collaboratively developed over years by experts in the field as well as youth and parents.
Criterion Validity: Several studies indicated that ACLSA is related to a criterion measurement of a similar construct.
Construct Validity: Evidence suggests the ACLSA is sensitive enough to portray differences in ability.

References:
Construct: Communication and Social Skills

Scale Name: Social Development (inappropriately labeled Communication in larger instrument)

Developers: Casey Family Programs

Rating Scale:
0 = Not Like Me
1 = Somewhat Like Me
2 = Very Much Like Me

Items:
1. I ask for help when I need it.
2. I tell my problems to an adult.
3. I use good manners when I eat.
4. I pay attention when others talk.
5. I am polite to adults.
6. I tell others how I feel.
8. I stay out of trouble.
9. I help others.
10. I can get mad without hurting others.

Scoring:
- No reverse coding for any items.
- Sum all items responses for a total scale score. Scale score ranges from 0-20.
- Higher scores indicate better communication and social skills.
- Note: Guide available from developer for paper version; on-line version provides automatic scoring and report.