

Social-Emotional Assessment and Learning (SEAL) Programs



The SIP-AP is one measure in a collection of assessment tools available through innovation, Research, and Training's (iRT) Social-Emotional Assessment and Learning (SEAL) Programs website. SEAL provides a single host site for accessing measures and information about the assessment of social and emotional development in children and adolescents with the highlight of access to web-based administration.



SIP-AP Custom allows the administrator to create a customized measure of SIP skills from menus of video vignettes, SIP questions, and response scales. Administrators can also create novel questions and responses as well as upload their own video and audio files.



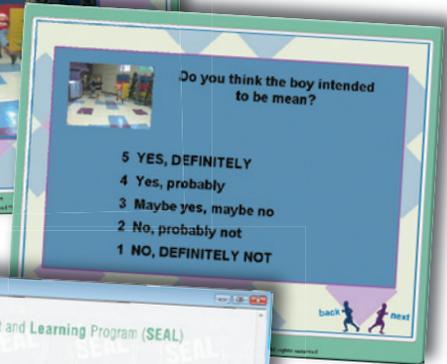
The CARE assessment tool is a web-based computer application that assesses facial emotion recall and recognition skills, anger bias, and nonverbal emotional behavior in four-to-six year old children. This instrument can be administered with minimal supervision. The program can automatically produce a scored, interpretive report. Expansion of FACS-coded photographic stimuli to older age groups and with associated norms is planned.

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Visit the SEAL website for additional information:
www.sealprograms.com

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Social Information Processing Application (SIP-AP):

A Self-Administered Web-based Computer Application that Assesses Social Information Processing Skills in School-Aged Boys

- Using innovative scientific methods in assessment, research and training.

SIP-AP Overview

The Social Information Processing Application (SIP-AP) is an innovative, self-administered, web-based computer application that assesses 16 essential social information processing skills in 3rd-5th grade (8-11 year old) children. This tool is helpful for clinicians and researchers. For clinicians, it may assist in identifying deficits in six social cognitive mechanisms and in guiding interventions for children who are experiencing these deficits. Researchers can take advantage of the standard measure, the automated data entry and scoring options, and the easily downloadable data.

The SIP-AP measure uses high quality, video-recorded stimuli, filmed from the first person perspective so the child actually feels like they are in the social situations they watch. To complete the measure, children view brief video vignettes of everyday social situations and then respond to a series of questions about each scenario. The SIP-AP can automatically record all of the child's responses, calculates scores, and produces an interpretive report.

Scientific Basis

The SIP-AP is based on extensive research on how children process information in social situations and uses the Social Information Processing (SIP) model as a guiding framework.

The SIP model by Crick and Dodge (1994) has contributed significantly to the literature on children's social development and our understanding of aggressive behavior patterns. The SIP-AP includes the following mechanisms:

- (1) encoding of internal and external cues,
- (2) interpretation of these cues,
- (3) emotional responses,
- (4) goal selection,
- (5) access to or construction of possible responses, and
- (6) response evaluation and decision processes.

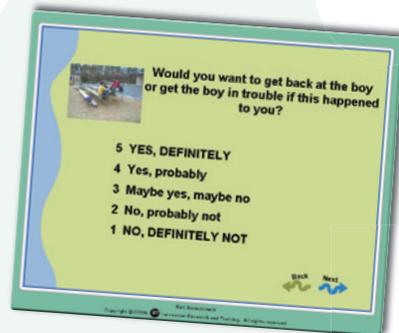
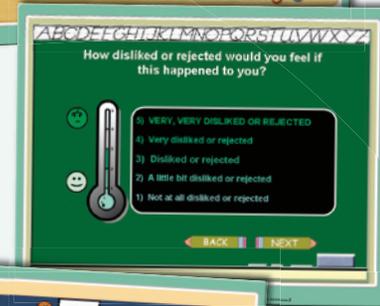
Each mechanism within the model provides information that improves the prediction of aggressive behavior (Dodge & Price, 1994). The SIP-AP was designed to provide a comprehensive assessment of these mechanisms to thoroughly identify any social cognitive deficits. Identification of SIP skills deficits is particularly important so that early intervention can be implemented to target any maladaptive social cognitions to prevent the onset or maintenance of social skills problems, aggression or delinquency.

Evidence-based Application

To establish normative scores and assess the validity of the SIP-AP, 3rd, 4th and 5th grade boys (n = 268) from various regions of the United States completed the SIP-AP. One parent and a current teacher of each boy reported on their aggressive, inattentive, and antisocial behaviors. Results from this norming study established cut scores and concluded: 1) Boys' problems with the SIP mechanisms of cue interpretation, goals/emotion, response decision, and response evaluation were associated with significantly more aggression, 2) Boys identified as having problems on a range of SIP cognitions had significantly more aggressive, inattentive, and antisocial behaviors than boys who did not have SIP problems and 3) Boys who had more SIP skills deficits in situations involving physical, relational, and covert aggression, or property destruction were more aggressive than boys who did not have SIP skills deficits in these situations.

Distinguishing Features of the Application

- Only comprehensive, psychometrically strong, web-based measure that assesses multiple stages of the SIP model.
- Audio-computer-assisted self-administration. Requires very little supervision of child or adolescent respondent.
- Utilizes rich media with inclusion of eight videotaped vignettes.
- Online scoring producing an automatically generated interpretive report for each individual respondent including norm referenced scores on 6 SIP mechanisms, 16 SIP individual cognitions and SIP skills in five social contexts.
- Quick and easy online ordering options.
- Password protected access to administrative and respondent data.
- Access to data from any location with internet access. Data storage on secured servers.
- Comprehensive Manual providing information about administration, scoring, and interpretation of the SIP-AP.
- Web-based help menus are available throughout the administrative part of the website to assist in creation of a study or clinical protocol and management of participant/client information.



Web-Based Training Overview

Course on SIP research and assessment is available through the SEAL Programs website.

Key components of the training:

- Examine the five cognitive mechanisms included in the Social Information Processing (SIP) conceptual framework
- Research on SIP skills deficits and their relation to children's behavior problems
- Description of the development of the Social Information Processing Application (SIP-AP)
- Summary of the research findings on the reliability and validity of the SIP-AP measure from a norming study
- Training in how to administer and interpret the SIP-AP