

*Devereux*

*CENTER FOR RESILIENT CHILDREN*

## Comprehensive Review of Assessment Tools

# Devereux Center for Resilient Children (DCRC) Assessment Tools: Summary Table

*Strength-based assessment tools based on Resilience research that measure social and emotional skills and competencies*

	<a href="#">DECA for Infants</a> (DECA-I)	<a href="#">DECA for Toddlers</a> (DECA-T)	<a href="#">DECA for Preschoolers, Second Edition</a> (DECA-P2)	<a href="#">DECA Clinical Form</a> (DECA-C)	<a href="#">Devereux Student Strengths Assessment</a> (DESSA)	<a href="#">Devereux Student Strengths Assessment-Mini</a> (DESSA-Mini)
<b>Age-range</b>	1-18 mo.	18-36 mo.	3-5 yrs.	2-5 yrs.	K-8 <sup>th</sup> gr.	K-8 <sup>th</sup> gr.
<b>Assess, Screen, or Both</b>	Both	Both	Both	Assess	Assess	Screen
<b>Parent/Guardian Rater</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Teacher/Caregiver/Provider Rater</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Time to Administer (in minutes)</b>	5-10	5-10	5-10	10-15	10	1-2
<b>Total Number of items</b>	33	36	38	62	72	8
<b>Reading level</b>	Sixth	Sixth	Sixth	Sixth	Sixth	Sixth
<b>English, Spanish, or Both</b>	Both	Both	Both	English	English	English
<b>Culturally Appropriate Items</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Reliability</b> meets/exceeds prof standards	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Validity</b> meets/exceeds prof standards	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>National Standardization sample</b>	2,183	2,183	3553	1108-2,000	2494	1250
<b>Standard Scores</b>	%, T-score	%, T-score	%, T-score	%, T-score	%, T-score	%, T-score
<b>Advanced Interpretation Available</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b>Web-based (Electronic) Version</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Scoring Assistant CD</b>	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
<b>Cost per Assessment (paper)</b>	\$1	\$1	\$1	\$2	\$1.60	.32
<b>Accompanying Strategies</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
<b><a href="#">Professional Development</a></b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<b>Meets Professional Standards</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

## References:

- LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2003). *Devereux early childhood assessment—clinical form*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.
- LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2003). *User’s manual for Devereux early childhood assessment—clinical form*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.
- LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2012). *Devereux early childhood assessment for preschoolers, second edition*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.
- LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2012). *User’s guide and technical manual-preschool*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.
- LeBuffe, P.A., Shapiro, V.B., & Naglieri, J.A. (2014). *Devereux student strengths assessment*. Charlotte, NC: Apperson SEL +
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- Naglieri, J.A., LeBuffe, P.A., & Shapiro, V.B. (2014). *Devereux student strengths assessment—mini*. Charlotte, NC: Apperson SEL +
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- Mackrain, M., LeBuffe, P., & Powell, G. (2007). *Devereux early childhood assessment for infants and toddlers*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.
- Mackrain, M., LeBuffe, P., & Powell, G. (2007). *Devereux early childhood assessment for infants and toddlers – user’s guide*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.

**Devereux Center for Resilient Children (DCRC) Assessment Tools:  
The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment for Infants (DECA-I)  
Summary Table**

<b>DECA for Infants (DECA-I)</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment for Infants (DECA-I) is a behavior rating scale that is completed by parents and/or caregivers which provides an assessment of within-child protective factors central to social and emotional health and resilience in infants ages 4 weeks up to 18 months. The DECA-I is part of the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment Program for Infants and Toddlers (DECA-I/T) which includes the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment for Toddlers (DECA-T), an assessment for toddlers 18 months to 36 months.
<b>Authors</b>	Mary Mackrain, Paul A. LeBuffe, and Gregg Powell
<b>Publisher and ordering link to webpage</b>	Kaplan Early Learning Company, Lewisville, NC <a href="http://www.kaplanco.com/devereux">www.kaplanco.com/devereux</a>
<b>Publication date</b>	2007
<b>Age range</b>	Ages 4 weeks up to 18 months
<b>Raters</b>	Raters fall into two categories: 1) parents, guardians, other family caregivers or family child care providers who observe the child in a homelike setting; and 2) teachers or other childcare and education professionals who see the child in a child care program or infant toddler program. Observation of the infant over a 4 week period is necessary to complete the assessment. No specific training required to rate the child.
<b>Qualifications of Users</b>	Knowledge of test (assessment) interpretation necessary to understand results and explain results to families.
<b>Scale titles and description Number of items</b>	<b><i>DECA-Infants (DECA-I)</i></b> <i>Total Protective Factors (TPF) – 33 items</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Initiative</i>: The infant’s ability to use independent thought and action to meet his/her needs – 18 items</li> <li>• <i>Attachment/Relationships</i>: The mutual, strong, long-lasting relationship between the infant and significant adults such as family members, and teachers – 15 items</li> </ul>
<b>Reading level</b>	Sixth-grade
<b>Used as an assessment and/or screening tool?</b>	The DECA-I can be used as a screening tool or an assessment tool, depending on the <u>process and purpose</u> for which it is used. If the DECA-I is used as part of a surveillance process to globally identify children’s strengths as well as which infants may need further observation or assessment, then it is being used as a screener. If the DECA-I is used to assess, interpret and plan for the growth of an infant’s protective factors across time, it is being used as part of an assessment process.

<p><a href="#">Psychometrics</a></p>	<p><b>Reliability:</b></p> <p><b>Internal reliability/Consistency</b> – Excellent. Total Protective Factor (TPF) coefficients for Parent raters on the Infant Form range from .90 - .94; and coefficients for teacher raters ranged from .93 - .94. These figures meet or exceed the recommended minimum standard—See User’s Manual for details.</p> <p><b>Test-retest reliability</b> – Significant at the <math>p &lt; .001</math> level. DECA-I coefficients for parent raters across scales range from (.86 - .94) and teacher raters (.83 - .84). These figures meet or exceed the recommended minimum standard.</p> <p><b>Inter-rater reliability</b> – High and Significant at the <math>p &lt; .01</math> level. Total Protective Factors coefficient was .68 for parent raters and .72 for teacher raters.</p> <p><b>Validity:</b></p> <p><b>Content validity</b> – High, based on literature review of resilience literature related to young children, focus groups with parents, teachers, and infant and early childhood mental health professionals, as well as careful review of other infant and toddler social and emotional assessments. Finally, the DCRC staff and a National Advisory Board provided additional feedback that shaped assessment items and scales.</p> <p><b>Criterion validity</b> – The DECA-I/T has shown significant differences between scores of infants and toddlers in an “identified sample” (those with emotional and behavioral disturbance) versus the “community sample” (their non-identified peers).</p> <p><b>Construct validity</b> – Using the sister tool of the DECA-I/T, the DECA (for ages 2-5), data was matched between 2 year olds using each assessment tool. The DECA-T was found to have strong convergent validity with the DECA. Due to the similarity in scale structure and items, there is a level of confidence regarding convergence evidence of the DECA-T as well.</p>
<p><a href="#">Standardization sample</a></p>	<p>Final sample for both the DECA-I and DECA-T included 2,183 children ages 4 weeks to 36 months (45% infants and 55% toddlers), representative of US Population based on the following factors: age, gender, geographic region of residence, race ethnicity, and socioeconomic status.</p>
<p><b>Administration Time</b></p>	<p>The assessment items take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete in the paper version. Time is reduced to 3-5 minutes with use of the web-based version. Visit <a href="http://www.e-deca2.org">www.e-deca2.org</a> for more information.</p>
<p><b>Results and Basic Interpretation</b> <b>Descriptions, Standard scores</b></p>	<p>Raw scale scores, Percentile ranks and T-scores are provided for each scale (Initiative, Attachment/Relationships) and for Total Protective Factors. Scale score results range from Area of Need (T-scores 40 and below), Typical (T-scores 41-59), and Strengths (T-scores 60 and above) for Protective Factor scales.</p>
<p><b>Advanced Interpretation</b></p>	<p>Advanced interpretation is provided on the following: Percentage Delay; Comparisons Across Raters; Pretest-Posttest Comparisons.</p>
<p><b>Strategies/Planning</b></p>	<p>Results from the DECA-I lead to strength-based planning at the Child, Group, and Program levels. The DECA-I is part of a comprehensive system of assessment and planning. Research informed classroom and home-based strategies that families and caregivers can use to support a child’s DECA-I results are offered through accompanying DECA-I/T Program resources to include; the <i>Infant and Toddler Strategies Guide</i> and <i>For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and</i></p>

	<i>Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers</i> . Visit <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org">www.centerforresilientchildren.org</a> for more information on strategies and planning resources.
<b>Languages</b>	English and Spanish; culturally appropriate items (interpret results with child's culture in mind)
<b>Web-based (electronic) version</b>	The web-based version of the DECA-I is part of the e-DECA web-based platform. Assessment options include per administration or per child. Visit <a href="http://www.e-deca2.org">www.e-deca2.org</a> for more information.
<b>Cost per Assessment</b>	Approximately \$1 per assessment
<b>Cost per Kit (all items may be purchased separately)</b>	Cost of DECA I/T Kit: \$199.95. Kit includes: Record forms (20 Infant and 30 Toddler), <i>User's Manual, Infant and Toddler Strategies Guide, For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers</i> (20 copies), <i>Building Your Bounce: Simple Strategies for a Resilient You</i> (2 copies), <i>Parent/Teacher Master</i>
<b>Resources for families</b>	Families can complete the DECA-I on their infant. <i>For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers</i> is offered to help families understand resilience and social and emotional health, as well as how to build these skills in their infants and toddlers. The <i>Infant and Toddler Strategies Guide</i> , offers many strategies and tips for caregivers on creating and maintaining family partnerships. Visit DCRC's website which provides more information on resilience in infants and toddlers, as well as many free activities and strategies for families to use to promote resilience. Visit: <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/infantsandtoddlers">www.centerforresilientchildren.org/infantsandtoddlers</a>
<b><u>Professional Development available</u></b>	<p>Training is not required to use the DECA-I. However, to best support users, DCRC offers a wide variety of opportunities for professional development, including:</p> <p>Recorded webinar on the DECA-I/T available: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZwLMYO86HE">www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZwLMYO86HE</a></p> <p>Free live webinars available via: <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/professional-development/webinars/">www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/professional-development/webinars/</a></p> <p>Fee for Service Trainings to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-Day DECA-I/T Program Implementation Training (Best Practice)</li> <li>1-Day DECA-I/T Program Overview Training</li> <li>1-Day DECA-I/T Program Refresher Training</li> <li>1-Day DECA-I/T Program for Family Service Workers</li> <li>1-Day DECA-I/T Program Strategies Training (for those programs who have received training and are looking to strengthen skills in using assessment results for planning),</li> </ul>

	<p>2 Day Local Program Mentor Training (for individuals who have completed the 2 day Implementation Training and wish to bring Training and T/A to their local program and/or community).</p> <p>DCRC staff trains on many other topics related to infants and toddlers' social and emotional health including: Adult Resilience, Challenging Behavior, Reflective Practice, Quality Teaching Practices, Observation, and much more. Contact: <a href="mailto:dmahler@devereux.org">dmahler@devereux.org</a></p>
<b>Meets Professional Standards</b>	<p>The DECA-I helps programs meet both the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and Early Head Start/Head Start Performance Standards. For these crosswalks, as well as alignment matrices with other curricula and assessment tools, visit: <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/infants/alignment-tools/">www.centerforresilientchildren.org/infants/alignment-tools/</a></p>

**References:**

Mackrain, M., LeBuffe, P., & Powell, G. (2007). *Devereux early childhood assessment for infants and toddlers*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.

Mackrain, M., LeBuffe, P., & Powell, G. (2007). *Devereux early childhood assessment for infants and toddlers – user's guide*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.

**Devereux Center for Resilient Children (DCRC) Assessment Tools:  
The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment for Toddlers (DECA-T)  
Summary Table**

<b>DECA for Toddlers DECA-T</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment for Toddlers (DECA-T) is a behavior rating scale that is completed by parents and/or caregivers which provides an assessment of within-child protective factors central to social and emotional health and resilience in toddlers ages 18 to 36 months. The DECA-T is part of the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment Program for Infants and Toddlers (DECA-I/T) which includes the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment for Infants (DECA-I), an assessment for infants ages 4 week to 18 months.
<b>Authors</b>	Mary Mackrain, Paul A. LeBuffe, and Gregg Powell
<b>Publisher and ordering link to webpage</b>	Kaplan Early Learning Company, Lewisville, NC <a href="http://www.kaplanco.com/devereux">www.kaplanco.com/devereux</a>
<b>Publication date</b>	2007
<b>Age range</b>	18 months to 36 months
<b>Raters</b>	Raters fall into two categories: 1) parents, guardians, other family caregivers or family child care providers who observe the child in a homelike setting; and 2) teachers or other childcare and education professionals who see the child in a child care program or infant toddler program. Observation of the toddler over a 4 week period is necessary to complete the assessment. No specific training required to rate the child.
<b>Qualifications of Users</b>	Knowledge of test (assessment) interpretation necessary to understand results and explain results to families.
<b>Scale titles and description</b> <b>Number of items</b>	<b><i>DECA-Toddlers (DECA-T)</i></b> <i>Total Protective Factors (TPF)</i> – 36 items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Initiative:</i> The toddler’s ability to use independent thought and action to meet his/her needs – 11 items</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Self-Regulation</i>: The toddler’s ability to use independent thought and action to meet his or her needs – 7 items</li> <li>• <i>Attachment/Relationships</i>: The mutual, strong, long-lasting relationship between the toddler and significant adults such as family members, and teachers – 18 items</li> </ul>
<b>Reading level</b>	Sixth-grade
<b>Used as an assessment and/or screening tool?</b>	The DECA-T can be used as a screening tool or an assessment tool, depending on the <u>process and purpose</u> for which it is used. If the DECA-T is used as part of a surveillance process to globally identify children’s strengths as well as which toddlers may need further observation or assessment, then it is being used as a screener. If the DECA-T is used to assess, interpret and plan for the growth of a toddler’s protective factors across time, it is being used as part of an assessment process.
<b><u>Psychometrics</u></b>	<p><b><u>Reliability:</u></b></p> <p><b>Internal reliability/Consistency</b> –Total Protective Factor (TPF) coefficients for parent raters on the Toddler Form were .94; and coefficients for teacher raters were .95. These figures meet or exceed the recommended minimum standard—Details in User’s Manual.</p> <p><b>Test-retest reliability</b> – Significant at the <math>p &lt; .001</math> level. TPF coefficients for parent raters ranged from .92 - .99; and teacher raters ranged from .72 - .98).</p> <p><b>Inter-rater reliability</b> – Significant at the <math>p &lt; .01</math> level. Total Protective Factors scale correlations ranged from .62 - .72 for parent raters; and the range was .66 to .74 for teacher raters.</p> <p><b><u>Validity:</u></b></p> <p><b>Content validity</b> – High, based on literature review of resilience literature related to young children, focus groups with parents, teachers, and infant and early childhood mental health professionals, as well as careful review of other infant and toddler social and emotional assessments. Finally, the DCRC staff and a National Advisory Board provided additional feedback that shaped assessment items and scales.</p> <p><b>Criterion validity</b> – The DECA-I/T has shown significant differences between scores of infants and</p>

	<p>toddlers in an “identified sample” (those with emotional and behavioral disturbance) versus the “community sample” (their non-identified peers).</p> <p><b>Construct validity</b> – Using the sister tool of the DECA-I/T, the DECA (for ages 2-5), data was matched between 2 year olds using each assessment tool. The DECA-T was found to have strong convergent validity with the DECA. Due to the similarity in scale structure and items, there is a level of confidence regarding convergence evidence of the DECA-I as well.</p>
<a href="#">Standardization sample</a>	Final sample for both the DECA-I and DECA-T included 2,183 children ages 4 weeks to 36 months (45% infants and 55% toddlers), representative of US Population based on the following factors: age, gender, geographic region of residence, race ethnicity, and socioeconomic status.
<b>Administration Time</b>	The assessment items take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete in the paper version. Time is reduced to 3-5 minutes with use of the web-based version. Visit <a href="http://www.e-deca2.org">www.e-deca2.org</a> for more information.
<b>Results and Basic Interpretation Descriptions, Standard scores provided</b>	Raw scale scores, Percentile ranks and T-scores are provided for each scale (Initiative, Self-Regulation, Attachment/Relationships) and for Total Protective Factors. Scale score results range from Area of Need (T-scores 40 and below), Typical (T-scores 41-59), and Strengths (T-scores 60 and above) for Protective Factor scales. Results are provided at the individual and group levels via the Individual Child Profile and the Group/Classroom Profile.
<b>Advanced Interpretation</b>	Advanced interpretation is provided on the following: Percentage Delay; Comparisons Across Raters; Pretest-Posttest Comparisons.
<b>Strategies/Planning</b>	Results from the DECA-T lead to strength-based planning at the Child, Group, and Program levels. The DECA-T is part of a comprehensive system of assessment and planning. Research informed classroom and home-based strategies that families and caregivers can use to support a child’s DECA-T results are offered through accompanying DECA-I/T Program resources to include; the <i>Infant and Toddler Strategies Guide</i> and <i>For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers</i> . Visit <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org">www.centerforresilientchildren.org</a> for more information on strategies and planning resources.
<b>Languages</b>	English and Spanish; culturally appropriate items (interpret results with child’s culture in mind)

<b>Web-based (electronic) version</b>	The web-based version of the DECA-T is part of the e-DECA web-based platform. Assessment options include per administration or per child. Visit <a href="http://www.e-deca2.org">www.e-deca2.org</a> for more information.
<b>Cost per Assessment</b>	Approximately \$1 per assessment
<b>Cost per Kit (all items may be purchased separately)</b>	Cost of DECA I/T Kit: \$199.95. Kit includes: Record forms (20 Infant and 30 Toddler), <i>User's Manual</i> , <i>Infant and Toddler Strategies Guide</i> , <i>For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers</i> (20 copies), <i>Building Your Bounce: Simple Strategies for a Resilient You</i> (2 copies), <i>Parent/Teacher Master</i>
<b>Resources for families</b>	Families can complete the DECA-T on their child. <i>For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers</i> is offered to help families understand resilience and social and emotional health, as well as how to build these skills in their infants and toddlers. Our <i>Infant and Toddler Strategies Guide</i> , offers many strategies and tips for caregivers on creating and maintaining family partnerships. <i>Socially Strong Emotionally Secure</i> provides 50 activities designed to promote resilience. Additional projects and resources for families are in development, specifically within DCRC's Child Welfare Initiative. In addition, DCRC's website provides information as well as many free activities and strategies for families to use to promote resilience. Visit: <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/infantsandtoddlers">www.centerforresilientchildren.org/infantsandtoddlers</a>
<b><a href="#">Professional Development available</a></b>	Training is not required to use the DECA-T. However, to best support users, DCRC offers a wide variety of opportunities for professional development, including:  Recorded webinar on the DECA-I/T available: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZwLMYO86HE">www.youtube.com/watch?v=GZwLMYO86HE</a>  Free live webinars available via: <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/professional-development/webinars/">www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/professional-development/webinars/</a>  Fee for Service Trainings to include: 2-Day DECA-I/T Program Implementation Training (Best Practice) 1-Day DECA-I/T Program Overview Training

	<p>1-Day DECA-I/T Program Refresher Training</p> <p>1-Day DECA-I/T Program for Family Service Workers</p> <p>1-Day DECA-I/T Program Strategies Training (for those programs who have received training and are looking to strengthen skills in using assessment results for planning),</p> <p>2 Day Local Program Mentor Training (for individuals who have completed the 2 day Implementation Training and wish to bring Training and T/A to their local program and/or community).</p> <p>DCRC staff trains on many other topics related to infants and toddlers’ social and emotional health including: Adult Resilience, Challenging Behavior, Reflective Practice, Quality Teaching Practices, Observation, and much more. Contact: <a href="mailto:dmahler@devereux.org">dmahler@devereux.org</a></p>
<b>Meets Professional Standards</b>	<p>The DECA-T helps programs meet both the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and Early Head Start/Head Start Performance Standards. For these crosswalks, as well as alignment matrices with other curricula and assessment tools, visit: <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/alignment-tools/">www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/alignment-tools/</a></p>

**References:**

Mackrain, M., LeBuffe, P., & Powell, G. (2007). *Devereux early childhood assessment for infants and toddlers*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.

Mackrain, M., LeBuffe, P., & Powell, G. (2007). *Devereux early childhood assessment for infants and toddlers – user’s guide*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.

**Devereux Center for Resilient Children (DCRC) Assessment Tools:  
The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment for Preschoolers, Second Edition (DECA-P2)  
Summary Table**

<b>DECA for Preschoolers (DECA-P2)</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment for Preschoolers, Second Edition (DECA-P2) is a behavior rating scale that is completed by parents and/or teachers which provides an assessment of within-child protective factors central to social and emotional health and resilience, as well as a screener for behavioral concerns in children ages 3 through 5 (i.e., up to the sixth birthday).
<b>Authors</b>	Paul A. LeBuffe and Jack A. Naglieri
<b>Publisher and ordering link to webpage</b>	Kaplan Early Learning Company, Lewisville, NC <a href="http://www.kaplanco.com/devereux">www.kaplanco.com/devereux</a>
<b>Publication date</b>	2012
<b>Age range</b>	Ages 3 through 5 (i.e., up to the sixth birthday)
<b>Scale titles and description Number of items</b>	<p><i>Total Protective Factors (TPF) – 27 items</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Initiative</i>: The child’s ability to use independent thought and action to meet his/her needs – 9 items</li> <li>• <i>Self-Regulation</i>: The child’s ability to express emotions and manage behaviors in healthy ways – 9 items</li> <li>• <i>Attachment/Relationships</i>: The child’s ability to promote and maintain mutual, positive connections with other children and significant adults – 9 items</li> </ul> <p><i>Behavioral Concerns – 11 items</i></p> <p>Total items on DECA-P2 – 38</p>
<b>Reading level</b>	Sixth-grade
<b>Used as an assessment and/or screener</b>	The DECA-P2 can be used as either a screening tool or an assessment tool, depending on the <u>process and purpose</u> for which it is used. DECA-P2 results are to used identify the social and emotional strengths and needs of a child. Results of the assessment should be used to plan for children to support their growth and development in the area of social and emotional health. If the DECA-P2 is used to assess children’s protective factors and results are used to plan for that child’s growth and/or aggregated and used to plan for a group of children, then it is being used as an assessment tool. If the DECA-P2 is used only to identify which children may need further observation or assessment, then it is being used as a screener.
<b>Psychometrics</b>	<p><b>Reliability:</b></p> <p><b>Internal reliability/Consistency</b> – Total Protective Factor (TPF) coefficients for parent raters (.92) and teacher raters (.95). Behavioral Concerns scale for parent raters (.80) and teacher raters (.86) also meet or exceed recommended minimum</p>

	<p>standard—See <a href="#">User’s Manual</a> for details.</p> <p><b>Test-retest reliability</b> – TPF coefficients for parent raters (.88) and teacher raters (.95). Behavioral Concerns scale for parent raters (.78) and teacher raters (.80).</p> <p><b>Inter-rater reliability</b> – Correlations on all scales for teachers, and all but one scale for parents, are significant (<math>p &lt; .01</math>). Total Protective Factors scale correlations are .51 for parent raters and .72 for teacher raters. Behavioral Concerns scale coefficients are .46 for parents and .70 for teachers.</p> <p><b>Validity:</b></p> <p><b>Content validity</b> – High, based on literature review of social and emotional competence and resilience in young children, focus groups with early care and education professionals, and review by a National Advisory Committee.</p> <p><b>Criterion validity</b> – The DECA-P2 has shown significant differences between scores of preschoolers in an “identified sample” (those with emotional and behavioral disturbance) versus the “community sample” (their non-identified peers).</p> <p><b>Construct validity</b> – The DECA-P2 has strong convergent validity with the total scale scores for both the Preschool Emotional and Behavioral Rating Scale (PreBERS) and Conners Early Childhood (EC).</p>
<b>Standardization sample</b>	Final sample included 3,553 children ages 3-5, representative of US Population based on the following factors: age, gender, geographic region of residence, race ethnicity, and socioeconomic status.
<b>Administration Time</b>	The assessment items take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete in the paper version. Time is reduced to 3-5 minutes with use of the web-based version. Visit <a href="http://www.e-deca2.org">www.e-deca2.org</a> for more information.
<b>Results and Basic Interpretation Descriptions, Standard scores provided</b>	Percentile ranks and T-scores are provided for each scale (Initiative, Self-Regulation, Attachment/Relationships, Behavioral Concerns) and for Total Protective Factors. Scale score results range from Area of Need (T-scores 40 and below), Typical (T-scores 41-59), and Strengths (T-scores 60 and above) for Protective Factor scales. For the Behavioral Concerns scale, results range from Area of Need (T-scores 60 and above) or Typical (T-scores 59 and below). Results are provided at the individual and group levels via the Individual Child Profile and the Group/Classroom Profile.
<b>Advanced Interpretation</b>	Individual Item Analysis allows for identification of specific behaviors that can be leveraged (Strengths) or improved (Areas of Need) through use of specific strategies or interventions. Additional interpretation provided on the following: Percentage Delay; Comparisons Across Raters; Pretest-Posttest Comparison; Evaluating Outcomes at the Child and Program Levels
<b>Strategies/Planning</b>	Results from the DECA-P2 lead to strength-based planning at the Child, Group, and Program levels. The DECA-P2 is part of a comprehensive system of assessment and planning. Strategies are offered for families as well as early childhood professionals, and other staff who work with young children. DCRC offers many useful planning resources, primarily <i>Promoting Resilience in Preschoolers: A Strategy Guide for Early Childhood Professionals</i> and <i>Promoting Resilience For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Young Children</i> . Visit <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org">www.centerforresilientchildren.org</a> for more information on strategies and planning resources.

<b>Languages</b>	English and Spanish; culturally appropriate items (interpret results with child's culture in mind)
<b>Web-based (electronic) version</b>	The web-based version of the DECA-P2 is part of the e-DECA web-based platform. Assessment options include per administration or per child. Visit <a href="http://www.e-deca2.org">www.e-deca2.org</a> for more information.
<b>Cost per Assessment</b>	Approximately \$1 per assessment
<b>Cost per Kit (all items may be purchased separately)</b>	Cost of Kit: \$209.95. Kit includes: DECA-P2 record forms (40), <i>User's Guide and Technical Manual, Promoting Resilience in Preschoolers: A Strategy Guide for Early Childhood Professionals, Promoting Resilience For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Young Children</i> (20 copies), <i>Building Your Bounce: Simple Strategies for a Resilient You</i> (2 copies), <i>FLIP IT®: Transforming Challenging Behavior</i> .
<b>Resources for families</b>	Families can complete the DECA-P2 on their child. <i>Promoting Resilience For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Young Children</i> is offered to help families understand resilience and social and emotional health, as well as how to build these skills in their child. <i>Promoting Resilience in Preschoolers</i> , our teachers' guide, offers many strategies and tips on creating and maintaining family partnerships. <i>Socially Strong Emotionally Secure</i> provides 50 activities designed to promote resilience. Additional projects and resources for families are in development, specifically within DCRC's Child Welfare Initiative. In addition, DCRC's website provides information as well as many free activities and strategies for families to use to promote resilience. <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/home/for-parents/">www.centerforresilientchildren.org/home/for-parents/</a>
<b><u>Professional Development available</u></b>	Training is not required to use the DECA-P2. However, to best support users, DCRC offers a wide variety of opportunities for professional development, including:  Recorded scoring tutorial available: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=APEYEEpDbzE&amp;feature=g-all-u">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=APEYEEpDbzE&amp;feature=g-all-u</a>  Free webinars (live and/or archived) available via: <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/professional-development/webinars/">http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/professional-development/webinars/</a>  Fee for Service Trainings to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-Day DECA-P2 Program Implementation Training (Best Practice)</li> <li>1-Day DECA-P2 Program Overview Training</li> <li>1-Day DECA-P2 Program Refresher Training</li> <li>1-Day DECA-P2 Program for Family Service Workers</li> <li>1-Day DECA-P2 Program Strategies Training (for those programs who have received training and are looking to strengthen skills in using assessment results for planning),</li> </ul>

	<p>2-Day Local Program Mentor Training (for individuals who have completed the 2 day Implementation Training and wish to bring Training and T/A to their local program and/or community).</p> <p>DCRC staff trains on many other topics related to preschoolers' social and emotional health including: Challenging Behavior, Reflective Practice, Quality Teaching Practices, Observation, and much more. Contact: <a href="mailto:dmahler@devereux.org">dmahler@devereux.org</a></p>
<b>Meets Professional Standards</b>	<p>The DECA-P2 helps programs meet both the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and Head Start Performance Standards. For these crosswalks, as well as alignment matrices with other curricula and assessment tools, visit: <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/alignment-tools/">www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/alignment-tools/</a></p>

**Go to 1 Page Synopsis of DECA-P2**

**References:**

- Conners, C.K. (2009). *Conners early childhood manual*. Toronto, Canada: Multi-Health Systems.
- Epstein, M.H. & Synhorst, L. (2009). *Preschool behavioral and emotional rating scale, examiner's manual*. Austin, TX: Pro-Ed.
- LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2012). *Devereux early childhood assessment for preschoolers, second edition*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.
- LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2012). (2012). *User's guide and technical manual*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.

**Devereux Center for Resilient Children (DCRC) Assessment Tools:  
The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment Clinical Form (DECA-C)  
Summary Table**

**Devereux Early Childhood Assessment Clinical Form (DECA-C)**

<b>Description</b>	The Devereux Early Childhood Assessment Clinical Form (DECA-C) is a behavior rating scale that is completed by parents and/or early childhood or mental health professionals which provides an assessment of within-child protective factors central to social and emotional health and resilience, as well as social and emotional concerns, in children ages 2 through 5 (i.e., up to the sixth birthday).
<b>Authors</b>	Paul A. LeBuffe and Jack A. Naglieri
<b>Publisher and ordering link to webpage</b>	Kaplan Early Learning Company, Lewisville, NC: <a href="http://www.kaplanco.com/devereux">www.kaplanco.com/devereux</a>
<b>Publication date</b>	2002
<b>Age range</b>	Ages 2 through 5 (i.e., up to the sixth birthday)
<b>Qualifications of Raters/Users</b>	Parents and Early Childhood or Mental Health professionals rate the child. Observation of the child over a 4 week period is necessary to complete the assessment. No specific training required to rate the child. DECA-C Users are those who score and interpret results. DECA-C Users should be certified or licensed professionals with a thorough knowledge of test interpretation protocol ( <a href="#">Level B Users</a> ). If not a Level B User, one can attend training and pass a competency assessment in order to be able to use the DECA-C.
<b>Scale titles and description Number of items</b>	<p><i>Total Protective Factors (TPF) – 27 items</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Initiative:</i> The child’s ability to use independent thought and action to meet his/her needs – 11 items</li> <li>• <i>Self-Control:</i> The child’s ability to experience a range of feelings and express them using words and actions that society considers appropriate – 8 items</li> <li>• <i>Attachment:</i> The mutual, strong and long-lasting relationship between a child and significant adults, such as parents, family members, and teachers – 8 items</li> </ul> <p><i>Total Behavioral Concerns – 35 items</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Attention Problems:</i> Difficulties a child may have in focusing on a task and ignoring competing environmental stimuli – 7 items</li> <li>• <i>Aggression:</i> Hostile and destructive acts directed at other persons or things – 7 items</li> <li>• <i>Emotional Control Problems:</i> Difficulties a child has in modifying the overt expression of negative emotions – 8 items</li> <li>• <i>Withdrawal/Depression:</i> Behaviors related to emotional and social withdrawal in which the child is self-absorbed and often attends to his or her own thoughts or play rather than engaging in reciprocal interactions – 9 items</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Increased Concern Items:</i> While not comprising a scale, these items provide critical information about high risk behaviors seen in some young children – 4 items</li> </ul> <p>Total items on DECA-C – 62</p>
<b>Reading level</b>	Sixth-grade
<b>Used as an assessment and/or screening tool?</b>	The DECA-C is an assessment tool that provides in-depth information about a child’s behavior that is clinical in nature. The DECA-C provides parents and professionals with results that can be used to plan for the child, and also to contribute to a multi-faceted evaluation to help a child receive additional support services.
<b><u>Psychometrics</u></b>	<p><b><u>Reliability:</u></b></p> <p><b>Internal reliability/Consistency</b> – Total Protective Factor (TPF) coefficients for parent raters (.91) and teacher raters (.94). Total Behavioral Concerns (TBC) coefficients for parent raters (.88) and teacher raters (.93) also meet or exceed recommended minimum standards – see User’s Manual for details.</p> <p><b>Test-retest reliability</b> – TPF coefficients for parent raters (.74) and teacher raters (.94). TBC coefficients for parent raters (.88) and teacher raters (.86) also meet or exceed recommended minimum standard.</p> <p><b>Inter-rater reliability</b> – Correlations on all scales for teachers are significant (<math>p &lt; .05</math>). TPF coefficients are .69 and TBC coefficients are .66.</p> <p><b><u>Validity:</u></b></p> <p><b>Content validity</b> – High, based on a thorough review of literature in developmental psychology, focus groups with parents as well as with early care and education professionals, and the childhood version of the Devereux Scales of Mental Disorders (DSMD).</p> <p><b>Criterion validity</b> – The DECA-C has shown significant differences between scores of preschoolers in an “identified sample” (those with emotional and behavioral disturbance) versus the “community sample” (their non-identified peers).</p> <p><b>Construct validity</b> – The DECA-C has strong convergent validity with the total scale scores for both the Preschool Emotional and Behavioral Rating Scale (PreBERS) and Conners Early Childhood (EC). A plethora of detailed information on identification of specific behavioral disorders within the standardization sample is included in the User’s Guide. (<i>DECA-C User’s Guide</i>, page 41-50)</p>
<b><u>Standardization sample</u></b>	Final sample for protective factor scales included 2,000 children ages 2-5. Final sample of behavioral concerns items included 1,108 children. Both groups were representative of US Population ages 2-5 based on the following factors: age, gender, geographic region of residence, race ethnicity, and socioeconomic status.
<b>Administration Time</b>	The assessment items take approximately 10-15 minutes to complete in the paper version. Time is reduced to 5 minutes with use of the web-based version. Visit <a href="http://www.e-deca2.org">www.e-deca2.org</a> for more information.
<b>Results and Basic Interpretation</b>	Percentile ranks and T-scores are provided for each scale ( <i>Initiative, Self-Control, Attachment, Withdrawal/Depression, Emotional Control Problems, Attention Problems, Aggression</i> ) and for Total Protective Factors and Total Behavioral Concerns.

<b>Descriptions, Standard scores provided</b>	Unless <i>Increased Concern Items</i> are ranked “Never”, they are included in the report and discussed during follow-up. Scale score results range from Area of Need (T-scores 40 and below), Typical (T-scores 41-59), and Strengths (T-scores 60 and above) for Protective Factor scales. For the Behavioral Concerns scales, results range from Area of Need (T-scores 60 and above) or Typical (T-scores 59 and below).
<b>Advanced Interpretation</b>	Individual Item Analysis allows for identification of specific behaviors that can be leveraged (Strengths) or improved (Areas of Need) though use of specific strategies or interventions. Additional interpretation provided on the following: Comparisons Across Raters; Pretest-Posttest Comparison; Treatment Outcome Evaluation; Eligibility Guidelines; Percentage Delay.
<b>Strategies/Planning</b>	Results from the DECA-C would ideally lead to strength-based planning at the Child level. The Devereux Center for Resilient Children offers many useful planning resources, primarily <i>Promoting Resilience in Preschoolers: A Strategy Guide for Early Childhood Professionals</i> and <i>Promoting Resilience For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Young Children</i> . For two year olds receiving the DECA-C assessment, our Infant/Toddler resources are also useful in planning, primarily the <i>Infant and Toddler Strategies Guide</i> and <i>For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers</i> . Visit <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org">www.centerforresilientchildren.org</a> for more information on strategies and planning resources.
<b>Languages</b>	English; culturally appropriate items (interpret results with child’s culture in mind)
<b>Web-based (electronic) version</b>	The web-based version of the DECA-C is part of the e-DECA web-based platform. Assessment options include per administration or per child. Visit <a href="http://www.e-deca2.org">www.e-deca2.org</a> for more information.
<b>Cost per Assessment</b>	Approximately \$2.00 per assessment
<b>Cost per Kit (all items may be purchased separately)</b>	Cost of Kit: \$125.95. Kit includes: DECA-C record forms (30), <i>DECA-C Manual</i> , and DECA-C Norms Reference Card.
<b>Resources for families</b>	<i>Promoting Resilience For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Young Children</i> is offered to help families understand resilience and social and emotional health, as well as how to build these skills in their child. <i>Promoting Resilience in Preschoolers</i> , teachers’ guide, offers many strategies and tips on creating and maintaining family partnerships. <i>Socially Strong Emotionally Secure</i> provides 50 activities designed to promote resilience in preschoolers. For infants and toddler, useful resources include the <i>Infant and Toddler Strategies Guide</i> and <i>For Now and Forever: A Family Guide for Supporting the Social and Emotional Development of Infants and Toddlers</i> . Additional projects and resources for families are in development, specifically within DCRC’s Child Welfare Initiative. In addition, DCRC’s website provides information as well as many free activities and strategies for families to use to promote resilience. Contact: <a href="mailto:dcrc@devereux.org">dcrc@devereux.org</a>
<b><u>Professional Development available</u></b>	DECA-C Users should be certified or licensed professionals with a thorough knowledge of test interpretation protocol ( <a href="#">Level B Users</a> ). If not a Level B User, one can attend training and pass a competency assessment in order to be able to use the DECA-C.  Available at no cost: Pre-recorded overview of the DECA-C: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8poNguv0F2E">www.youtube.com/watch?v=8poNguv0F2E</a>

For Fee In-depth Webinars on the DECA-C:

[www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/professional-development/webinars/](http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/professional-development/webinars/)

Half-day and Full-day sessions available:

This professional development session is designed for mental health professionals, social workers, and other child-serving professionals who work with children already identified as having challenging behaviors. In this session, participants will learn:

- How to use the DECA-C to understand the needs of children who display challenging behavior over time
- How to administer and interpret the DECA-C assessment results
- How to effectively incorporate the assessment results into a positive support behavior plan

DCRC staff trains on many other topics related to preschoolers' social and emotional health including: Adult Resilience, Challenging Behavior, Reflective Practice, Quality Teaching Practices, Observation, and much more.

Contact: [dmahler@devereux.org](mailto:dmahler@devereux.org)

**References:**

- Conners, C.K. (2009). *Conners early childhood manual*. Toronto, Canada: Multi-Health Systems.
- Epstein, M.H. & Synhorst, L. (2009). *Preschool behavioral and emotional rating scale, examiner's manual*. Austin, TX: Pro-Ed.
- LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2003). *Devereux early childhood assessment—clinical form*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.
- LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2003). *User's manual for Devereux early childhood assessment—clinical form*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.
- LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2012). *Devereux early childhood assessment for preschoolers, second edition*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.
- LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2012). (2012). *User's guide and technical manual- preschool*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.
- Naglieri, J. A., LeBuffe, P.A., & Pfeiffer, S.I. (1994). *Devereux scales of mental disorders*. San Antonio: The Psychological Corporation.

**Devereux Center for Resilient Children (DCRC) Assessment Tools:  
The Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA)  
Summary Table**

<b>Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA)</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA) is a behavior rating scale that is completed by parents and/or teachers/after-school providers which provides an assessment of social-emotional competencies related to resilience in children kindergarten through eighth grade.
<b>Authors</b>	Paul A. LeBuffe, Valerie B. Shapiro, & Jack A. Naglieri
<b>Publisher and ordering link</b>	Apperson SEL +: Visit <a href="http://www.apperson.com/selplus">http://www.apperson.com/selplus</a>
<b>Publication date</b>	2014
<b>Age range</b>	Kindergarten through 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<b>Scale titles and description</b> <b>Number of items</b>	<p><i>Social Emotional Composite</i> – 72 items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Self-Awareness</i> (7 items): A child’s realistic understanding of her/his strengths and limitations and consistent desire for self-improvement.</li> <li>• <i>Social-Awareness</i> (9 items): A child’s capacity to interact with others in a way that shows respect for their ideas and behaviors, recognizes her/his impact on them, and uses cooperation and tolerance in social situations.</li> <li>• <i>Self-Management</i> (11 items): A child’s success in controlling his or her emotions and behaviors, to complete a task or succeed in a new or challenging situation.</li> <li>• <i>Goal-Directed Behavior</i> (10 items): A child’s initiation of, and persistence in completing, tasks of varying difficulty.</li> <li>• <i>Relationship Skills</i> (10 items): A child’s consistent performance of socially acceptable actions that promote and maintain positive connections with others.</li> <li>• <i>Personal Responsibility</i> (10 items): A child’s tendency to be careful and reliable in her/his actions and in contributing to group efforts.</li> <li>• <i>Decision Making</i> (8 items): A child’s approach to problem solving that involves learning from</li> </ul>

	<p>others and from her/his own previous experiences, using values to guide action, and accepting responsibility for decisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Optimistic Thinking</i> (7 items): A child's attitude and confidence, hopefulness, and positive thinking regarding herself/himself and her/his life situations in the past, present and future.</li> </ul>
<b>Reading level</b>	Sixth-grade
<b>Used as an assessment and/or screener</b>	The DESSA can be used as either a screening tool or an assessment tool, depending on the <u>process and purpose</u> for which it is used. DESSA results are used identify the social and emotional strengths and needs of a child. Results of the assessment should be used to plan for children to support their growth and development in the area of social and emotional health. If the DESSA is used to assess children's protective factors and results are used to plan for that child's growth and/or aggregated and used to plan for a group of children, then it is being used as an assessment tool. If the DESSA is used only to identify which children may need further observation or assessment, then it is being used as a screener.
<b><u>Psychometrics</u></b>	<p><b><u>Reliability:</u></b></p> <p><b>Internal reliability/Consistency</b> –The Social Emotional Composite coefficients for parent raters (.98) and teacher raters (.99) both well-exceed the .90 value for a total score suggested by professional standards. For more details, visit the User's Manual.</p> <p><b>Test-retest reliability</b> – Significant (<math>p &lt; .01</math>), and High. Correlations range from .79 to .94 across all DESSA scales.</p> <p><b>Inter-rater reliability</b> – Correlations on all are significant (<math>p &lt; .01</math>). The Social Emotional Composite correlations are .78 for parent raters and .80 for teacher raters.</p> <p><b><u>Validity:</u></b></p> <p><b>Content validity</b> – High, based on literature review of social and emotional competence, positive youth development and resilience in school-aged children, focus groups with parents and school-</p>

	<p>aged professionals, and review by a National Advisory Committee.</p> <p><b>Criterion validity</b> – The DESSA has shown significant differences between scores of preschoolers in an “identified sample” (those with emotional and behavioral disturbance) versus the “community sample” (their non-identified peers).</p> <p><b>Construct validity</b> – The DESSA has strong convergent validity with the total scale scores for both the BERS-2 (Epstein, 2004) and BASC-2 (Reynolds &amp; Kamphaus, 2004).</p>
<a href="#">Standardization sample</a>	Final sample included 2,494 children in K-8 <sup>th</sup> grade, representative of US Population based on the following factors: age, gender, geographic region of residence, race ethnicity, and socioeconomic status.
<b>Administration</b>	Raters generally fall into two categories: 1) Parents, Guardians and other Adult Caregivers who live with the child, and 2) Teachers, after-school program staff, or other professionals who interact directly with the child on a regular basis. The assessment items take approximately 10 minutes to complete in the paper version. Time is reduced to 5 minutes with use of the web-based version.
<b>Results and Basic Interpretation Descriptions, Standard scores provided</b>	Percentile ranks and T-scores are provided for each scale (Self-Awareness, Social-Awareness, Self-Management, Goal-Directed Behavior, Relationship Skills, Personal Responsibility, Decision Making, Optimistic Thinking), and for the Social-Emotional Composite. Scale score results range from Need for Instruction (T-scores 40 and below), Typical (T-scores 41-59), and Strength (T-scores 60 and above). Results are provided at the individual level via the Individual Child Profile, as well as the Group Profile for classroom planning.
<b>Advanced Interpretation</b>	Individual Item Analysis allows for identification of specific behaviors that can be leveraged (Strengths) or improved (Need for Instruction) by specific strategies or interventions. Additional interpretation provided on the following: Percentage Delay; Comparisons Across Raters; Pretest-Posttest Comparison; Treatment Outcome/Program/Curriculum Evaluation.
<b>Strategies/Planning</b>	Web-based School-Age Strategies for the DESSA available March 2014
<b>Languages</b>	Currently in English, with Spanish version coming soon; culturally appropriate items (interpret results with child’s culture in mind)
<b>Web-based (electronic) version</b>	The web-based version of the DESSA is part of the Evo Social and Emotional Assessment System

<b>scoring assistant</b>	<a href="http://www.apperson.com/selplus">http://www.apperson.com/selplus</a> for more information.
<b>Cost per Assessment</b>	Approximately \$1.60 per assessment
<b>Cost per Kit (all items may be purchased separately)</b>	Cost of Kit: \$115.95. Kit includes: DESSA record forms (25), <i>DESSA Manual</i> , DESSA Norms Reference Card. Scoring Assistant Available. Resources may be purchased separately.
<b>Resources for families</b>	Families can complete the DESSA on their child. DCRC's website provides information as well as many free activities and strategies for families to use to promote resilience with their school-aged children. Visit: <a href="http://www.studentstrengths.org">www.studentstrengths.org</a>
<b><u>Professional Development available</u></b>	<p>Training is not required to use the DESSA. However, to best support users, DCRC offers a wide variety of opportunities for professional development, including:</p> <p>Recorded webinar providing 1 hour overview of the DESSA:  <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6cewUcf5pE">www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6cewUcf5pE</a></p> <p>Free webinars (live and/or archived) available via: <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/school-age/professional-development/webinars/">http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/school-age/professional-development/webinars/</a></p> <p>Live Training for DESSA Professional Development: Half-day, Full-day, Webinar, and Conference Sessions available! In addition, DCRC staff trains on many other topics related to school-aged children including: Helping Children in Challenging Times, Reflective Practice, Taking Care of Your OWN Resilience, and much more. Contact: <a href="mailto:dmahler@devereux.org">dmahler@devereux.org</a></p>
<b>Meets Professional Standards</b>	The DESSA was designed to align with the pillars of the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) Framework. In addition, the DESSA helps programs meet State Learning Standards for Social and Emotional Health.

**References:**

Epstein, M.H. & Synhorst, L. (2009). *Preschool behavioral and emotional rating scale, examiner's manual*. Austin, TX: Pro-Ed.

LeBuffe, P.A. & Naglieri, J.A. (2012). *Devereux early childhood assessment for preschoolers, second edition*. Lewisville, NC: Kaplan Early Learning Company.

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**Devereux Center for Resilient Children (DCRC) Assessment Tools:  
The Devereux Student Strengths Assessment-mini (DESSA-mini)  
Summary Table**

<b>Devereux Student Strengths Assessment-mini (DESSA-mini)</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The Devereux Student Strengths Assessment-Mini (DESSA-mini) is a universal screening and progress monitoring system that is completed by teachers/after-school providers. The DESSA-mini consists of four 8-item parallel forms that are standardized, norm-referenced, and screen for social and emotional competencies related to resilience that serve as protective factors for children kindergarten through eighth grade.
<b>Authors</b>	Jack A. Naglieri, Paul A. LeBuffe, & Valerie B. Shapiro
<b>Publisher and ordering link</b>	Apperson: Visit <a href="http://www.apperson.com/selplus">http://www.apperson.com/selplus</a>
<b>Publication date</b>	2014
<b>Age range</b>	Kindergarten through 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<b>Format and Score Title</b>	Score Provided: <i>"Social Emotional Total"</i> Each of the four 8-item parallel forms takes a sample of items from the following scales on the DESSA (although not all scales are represented on each form): <i>Self-Awareness, Social-Awareness, Self-Management, Goal-Directed Behavior, Relationship Skills, Personal Responsibility, Decision-Making, Optimistic Thinking</i>
<b>Reading level</b>	Sixth grade
<b>Used as an assessment and/or screener</b>	The DESSA-mini is a screening tool. The DESSA-mini is used only to identify which children may need further observation or assessment. There are four parallel forms with 8 items each that can be used to screen children. For a full assessment including scale scores and a Social and Emotional Composite, use the DESSA. For more information on using the DESSA-mini and/or DESSA as part of a comprehensive system, visit: <a href="http://www.studentstrengths.org">www.studentstrengths.org</a>
<b><a href="#">Psychometrics</a></b>	<b>Reliability:</b>

	<p><b>Internal reliability/Consistency</b> –Each of the DESSA-mini reliability coefficients range from .912 - .924 and exceed the .90 value for a total score suggested by professional standards. See User’s Manual for details.</p> <p><b>Test-retest reliability</b> – Significant (<math>p &lt; .01</math>) – Correlations range from .88 to .94 over a four to eight day interval.</p> <p><b>Inter-rater reliability</b> – Correlations on all are significant (<math>p &lt; .01</math>)— Correlations ranged between .70 and .81.</p> <p><b>Validity:</b></p> <p><b>Content validity</b> – High, based on literature review of social and emotional competence, positive youth development and resilience in school-aged children, correlation with the DESSA, focus groups with parents and school-aged professionals, and review by a National Advisory Committee.</p> <p><b>Criterion validity</b> – The DESSA- has shown significant differences between scores of preschoolers in an “identified sample” (those with emotional and behavioral disturbance) versus the “community sample” (their non-identified peers).</p> <p><b>Construct validity</b> – The DESSA-mini has strong convergent validity with the DESSA.</p>
<a href="#">Standardization sample</a>	Final sample included 1,250 children in K-8 <sup>th</sup> grade, representative of US Population based on the following factors: age, gender, geographic region of residence, race ethnicity, and socioeconomic status.
<b>Administration</b>	Teachers and after-school staff serve as primary raters of the DESSA-mini. The 8 screener items take approximately 1-2 minutes to complete.
<b>Results and Basic Interpretation Descriptions, Standard scores</b>	Raw scores, percentile ranks, and T-scores are provided for the Social and Emotional Total. Results range from Need for Instruction (T-scores 40 and below), Typical (T-scores 41-59), and Strength (T-scores 60 and above).
<b>Advanced Interpretation</b>	Not available for the DESSA-mini. Detailed information available for the DESSA.
<b>Strategies/Planning</b>	Follow-up use of the DESSA-mini with the complete DESSA, as indicated for children who have “Need for Instruction” or would benefit from a full assessment of their Social and Emotional Health. Web-

	based School-Age Strategies for the DESSA available March 2014
<b>Languages</b>	English. Spanish version in development; culturally appropriate items (interpret results with child's culture in mind)
<b>Web-based (electronic) version scoring assistant</b>	The web-based version of the DESSA is part of the Evo Social and Emotional Assessment System <a href="http://www.apperson.com/selplus">http://www.apperson.com/selplus</a> for more information.
<b>Cost per Screening Tool</b>	32 cents per tool (\$7.95 for pad of 25)
<b>Cost per Kit (all items may be purchased separately)</b>	Cost of Kit: \$105.95. Kit includes: 25 copies of each of the four forms (Form 1, Form 2, Form 3 and Form 4), <i>DESSA-mini Manual</i> , 25 copies of the Ongoing Progress Monitoring Form. Resources may be purchased separately.
<b>Resources for families</b>	While families do not complete the DESSA-mini on their child, they are able to complete the DESSA. DCRC's website provides information as well as many free activities and strategies for families to use to promote resilience with their school-aged children. Visit: <a href="http://www.studentstrengths.org">www.studentstrengths.org</a>
<b><u>Professional Development</u></b>	<p>Training is not required to use the DESSA or DESSA-mini. However, to best support users, DCRC offers a wide variety of opportunities for professional development.</p> <p>Recorded webinar providing 1 hour overview of the DESSA/DESSA-mini:  <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6cewUcf5pE">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c6cewUcf5pE</a></p> <p>Free webinars (live and/or archived) available via:  <a href="http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/professional-development/webinars/">http://www.centerforresilientchildren.org/preschool/professional-development/webinars/</a></p> <p>DESSA/DESSA-mini Professional Development: Half-day, Full-day, Webinar, and Conference Sessions available! In addition, DCRC staff trains on many other topics related to school-aged children including: Helping Children in Challenging Times, Reflective Practice, Taking Care of Your OWN Resilience, and much more. Contact: <a href="mailto:dmahler@devereux.org">dmahler@devereux.org</a></p>
<b>Meets Professional Standards</b>	The DESSA and DESSA-mini were designed to align with the pillars of the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) Framework. In addition, the DESSA helps programs meet

**References:**

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