

Screen children as young as 3^{1/2} years old for early auditory and phonological skills

ASA serves as a universal or individual screener, providing accurate and developmentally based results to help you determine which children may need follow-up, intervention, or further evaluation of auditory and phonological skills in just 5–15 minutes!





A Variety of Professionals Quickly Screen with ASA

Easy and quick to administer, the ASA is appropriate for use by speech-language pathologists, audiologists, educational diagnosticians, psychologists, and other professionals for early identification of young children ages 3:6–6:11 who might be at risk for auditory skill deficits and/or early literacy skill difficulties.

With minimal training by a qualified user, classroom teachers, certified SLP assistants, early childhood educators, and other professionals may also administer the screening. However, interpretation and follow-up recommendations of the results require higher (Level B, Q1, Q2) qualification.

The ASA offers you a simple pass/fail cut score for each age range as well as a "Performance Descriptor" that gives a High, Average, or Low rating for each domain tested.

ASA's Versatility Benefits Young Children

- Early identification and intervention. Use the ASA results to identify children at risk for auditory skill deficits and who may be in need of an in-depth evaluation or early intervention.
- **Universal screening.** Administer the ASA as a preliminary assessment of young children's auditory skills in a preschool screening setting.
- **Progress monitoring.** Readminister the ASA to check a child's progress with auditory skills and to determine whether an intervention is working, still required, or whether an in-depth assessment is needed.

ASA DOMAINS AND SECTIONS

Speech Discrimination Domain

Discriminate words heard against a background of conversational noise
Repeat a spoken nonword
Recognize or say a word after hearing its syllables or phonemes spoken in piece
Indicate whether two spoken words rhyme
Indicate if two tones are from the same instrument
Indicate which of two tones was presented last

Note: Ages 3:6–4:11 are administered the tasks in the Speech Discrimination Domain only; ages 5:0–6:11 are administered all six sections across all three domains.

ASA: A Rigorous Research Process You Can Trust

From December 2008 through May 2009, over 600 children were tested at 123 locations throughout the United States to define cut scores that would best discriminate clinical cases from non-clinical cases and to provide a strong body of evidence for ASA's reliability, validity, and clinical utility.

Multiple pilots were conducted, especially with the Nonspeech Processing domain, to determine the best possible tasks to use for discriminating between clinical and non-clinical cases. In addition, during the tryout phase of development, qualitative reviews and empirical analyses were completed to ensure appropriateness of the items for a diverse range of children.

The ASA standardization included:

- A standardization sample of children ages 3 years 6 months through 6 years 11 months whose most frequently spoken language was English, who had normal vision with or without corrective aids, and were free of upper respiratory problems or ear infections at the time of testing
- The requirement that all children in the norm and clinical samples could pass a pure tone hearing screening at 20 db HL at 1000, 2000, and 4000 Hz in both ears within one week prior to ASA testing, to ensure adequate hearing acuity of the participants
- A standardization sample that accurately reflects the current U.S. population according to important demographic variables

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Engage Even the Youngest Children with ASA Tasks

- Presents large, full-color illustrations that appeal to young children
- Serves as a low tech, friendly screener, without requiring headphones or specialized equipment (a CD is used to present all auditory stimuli)
- Requires no reading or writing on the part of the examinee
- Offers the youngest age range in a published auditory skills assessment and can provide a "red flag" for possible auditory skill deficits

