DESSA

DEVEREUX STUDENT STRENGTHS ASSESSMENT

K-8TH GRADE

Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA)

For Grades K - 8

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This form describes a number of behaviors seen in some children. Read the statements that follow the phrase: ***During the past 4 weeks, how often did the child...*** and place a check mark in the box underneath the word that tells how often you saw the behavior. Please answer each question carefully. There are no right or wrong answers. If you wish to change your answer, put an X through it and fill in your new choice as shown below. Please do not skip any items.

Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Very Frequently
✗	✓	2	3	4

Child's Name: _____ Gender: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____

School/Organization: _____ Classroom/Program: _____ Grade: _____

Person Completing this Form: _____ Relationship to Child: _____ Date of Rating: _____

Item #	During the past 4 weeks, how often did the child…	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Very Frequently
1	remember important information?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
2	carry herself/himself with confidence?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	keep trying when unsuccessful?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
4	handle his/her belongings with care?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
5	say good things about herself/himself?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
6	serve an important role at home or school?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
7	speak about positive things?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
8	cope well with insults and mean comments?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
9	take steps to achieve goals?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
10	look forward to classes or activities at school?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
11	get along with different types of people?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12	try to do her/his best?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
13	seek out additional knowledge or information?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
14	take an active role in learning?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
15	do things independently?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
16	say good things about his/her classmates?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
17	act respectfully in a game or competition?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
18	ask to take on additional work or responsibilities?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
19	respect another person's opinion?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
20	encourage positive behavior in others?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
21	prepare for school, activities, or upcoming events?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
22	contribute to group efforts?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
23	do routine tasks or chores without being reminded?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
24	act as a leader in a peer group?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
25	resolve a disagreement?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
26	show creativity in completing a task?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
27	share with others?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
28	get things done in a timely fashion?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
29	seek out challenging tasks?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
30	say good things about the future?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
31	cooperate with peers or siblings?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
32	show care when doing a project or school work?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
33	work hard on projects?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
34	forgive somebody who hurt or upset her/him?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
35	follow rules?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
36	express high expectations for himself/herself?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Item #	During the past 4 weeks, how often did the child…	Never	Rarely	Occasionally	Frequently	Very Frequently
37	follow the example of a positive role model?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
38	compliment or congratulate somebody?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
39	accept responsibility for what she/he did?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
40	do something nice for somebody?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
41	make accurate statements about events in her/his life?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
42	show good judgment?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
43	pay attention?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
44	wait for her/his turn?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
45	show appreciation of others?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
46	focus on a task despite a problem or distraction?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
47	greet a person in a polite way?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
48	act comfortable in a new situation?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
49	teach another person to do something?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
50	attract positive attention from peers?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
51	perform the steps of a task in order?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
52	seek advice?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
53	think before he/she acted?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
54	pass up something he/she wanted, or do something he/she did not like, to get something better in the future?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
55	express concern for another person?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
56	accept another choice when his/her first choice was unavailable?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
57	ask questions to clarify what he/she did not understand?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
58	show an awareness of her/his personal strengths?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
59	ask somebody for feedback?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
60	stay calm when faced with a challenge?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
61	attract positive attention from adults?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
62	describe how he/she was feeling?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
63	give an opinion when asked?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
64	make a suggestion or request in a polite way?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
65	learn from experience?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
66	follow the advice of a trusted adult?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
67	adjust well to changes in plans?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
68	show the ability to decide between right and wrong?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
69	use available resources (people or objects) to solve a problem?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
70	offer to help somebody?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
71	respond to another person's feelings?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
72	adjust well when going from one setting to another?	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐