New Tools for Social-Emotional Assessment

Jane Squires, PhD and Jantina Clifford, PhD
Early Intervention Program, College of Education, University of Oregon

Objective: Evaluate the technical adequacy of the SEAM for Infants and Toddlers

What is the SEAM?
• Social Emotional Assessment/Evaluation Measure for Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers
• Programmatic assessment measure focused on both child and caregiver competence skills.
• Can be used by teachers, home visitors, interventionists, and consultants.

Purpose of the SEAM
• Assist in the prevention and early identification of social emotional and behavioral difficulties.
• Assist interventionists in the support of positive parent-child interactions.
• Assist in the development of functional, meaningful, measurable, high-quality goals and intervention content.

Features of the SEAM
• Completed by professional through interview with caregiver or independently by caregiver
• Age appropriate examples are suggested to assist caregivers in understanding and assessing the different ways their child may (or may not) display specific social-emotional behaviors.
• Includes assessment for parents: SEAM Family Profile assists in identifying areas where parents may need more support and resources to foster their child’s social-emotional skills.

10 Benchmarks
1. Participates in healthy interactions
2. Expresses a range of emotions
3. Regulates social-emotional responses
4. Shows empathy for others
5. Shares attention and engages with others
6. Demonstrates independence
7. Displays a positive self-image
8. Regulates attention and activity level
9. Cooperates with daily routines and requests
10. Shows a range of adaptive skills

Reliability and Validity Studies

Concurrent Validity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SEAM Interval</th>
<th>Total score</th>
<th>Compliance</th>
<th>Negative Emotion</th>
<th>Pro-social</th>
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<tr>
<td>Infant</td>
<td>2-12 months</td>
<td>754**</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12-36 months</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>800</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-36 months</td>
<td>516**</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>657**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toddler</td>
<td>2-12 months</td>
<td>564**</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>580**</td>
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<tr>
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<td>12-36 months</td>
<td>460**</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-36 months</td>
<td>564**</td>
<td>46</td>
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Test-retest Reliability

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<tr>
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<td>.968**</td>
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<tr>
<td>N</td>
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Inter-rater Reliability

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<td>.651*</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Group #3</td>
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Results

Utility

What Users are Saying about SEAM

From Parents:
• “The SEAM allowed me to put my thoughts out there.”
• “(Our conversation) felt non-judgmental because of the tool.”
• “If there is a concern it can be a helpful way to bring a parent on board.”

From Providers:
• “I liked having a tool to build from…”
• “The SEAM helped me explain what to expect.”
• “It felt more like a discovery tool than judgment.”
• “Using the SEAM took out the emotions and allowed us to be objective—it brings the parent up to the ‘expert’ level.”
• “The SEAM makes it easier for the professional to ask the right questions.”

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