

Parent–child interactions scale

Infant and toddler (Brigance III)



Child's name		Child's age	
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Parent/carer		Relationship to child	
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Compared to the way other children of the same age are learning, developing and behaving, would you say this child is: (select one of the following choices)

Below average		Average		Above average	
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Please check the answers that correspond to your observations.

	Not likely/not often (0)	Sometimes (1)	Often/likely (2)
1. Parent plays with child or plays with toys with child			
2. Parent helps child learn new things			
3. Parent reads children's books to child			
4. Parent makes up games or songs for child			
5. When child looks or touches a toy or object, parent talks to him/her about the to or object			

Total score from 1–5	
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A score of <8 suggests a need for parent training that emphasises knowledge of child development and builds nurturing skills.

	Not likely/not often	Sometimes	Often/likely
6. Parent hugs and kisses child and is openly affectionate			
7. Parent talks to child only when child is crying or upset			
8. When child is looking at parent, parent talks or makes sound with child			
9. Child seems to avoid parent or to prefer the company of other people			
10. Parent seems to enjoy child			
11. Parent soothes child when he/she is upset			
12. When child looks at or touches something, parent's first response is 'no'			
13. Parent faces child when speaking to him/her			

Responses to items 6–13 can give information about whether the parent (and therefore child) would benefit from additional nurturing and child-rearing skills

Psychosocial risk factors

Along with the completed *Parent–child interactions scale* the following information about the child's parents/carer and family can assist with determining psychosocial risk. This information is to be documented in the parents/carers' client details page and child's notes in the Child Development Information System (CDIS). This form can be uploaded as an attachment to CDIS.

A number of variables are associated with psychosocial risk and a few factors are listed. For a full list of psychosocial risk factors refer to the Brigrance Early Childhood Screen III (2014), Table 4, page xxii.

Language spoken at home	
Ethnicity	
Employment status	
Education level	
Number of siblings in home	
Number of household moves in last year	

The *Parent–child interactions scale* should be only administered by practitioners after referring to the Parent–child interaction form information in the Brigrance Early Childhood Screen III (2014), pages 71–72.

Parent–child interactions scale completed

Maternal and Child Health nurse		Date	
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To receive this publication in an accessible format phone 03 9096 9000, using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or [email Maternal and Child Health Service <mch@dhhs.vic.gov.au>](mailto:mch@dhhs.vic.gov.au).

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