

EXTERNALIZING BEHAVIORS

Externalizing behaviors refer to behavioral problems that manifest in children's outward behavior and reflect the child negatively acting on the external environment.

(Campbell, Shaw, & Gilliom, 2000; Eisenberg et al., 2001)

#16-Reexperiencing

A child may experience nightmares, flashbacks, repetitive play with themes of traumatic experiences or intensive reliving of events.

#33-Social Functioning

A child may have difficulty interacting with others. They may also have difficulty building and maintaining lasting friendships.

#36-Legal

A child may be involved in delinquent behavior that causes them to become involved in the legal system. Examples may include battery (fighting or severe aggression) or stealing.

#41-School Behavior

A child who is displaying external behaviors may be displaying difficult school behaviors.

#43-School Attendance

A child who is displaying external behaviors may be having school attendance concerns due to an unwillingness to attend school.

#49-Attention

Deficit/Impulse Control

A child who may have attention deficit or impulse control concerns. This may correlate with Anger Control if the child is impulsive with their aggression.

#52-Oppositional Behavior

A child who is displaying externalizing behaviors may have difficulty complying with authority or rules.

#53-Conduct

A child could have concerns about conduct. These behaviors may also correlate with other externalizing behaviors such as but not limited to: Legal, Impulse Control, and Anger Control.

#54-Substance Abuse

Children who are displaying externalizing behaviors may have substance abuse concerns.

#58-Behavioral Regression

Children may display regression that includes thumb sucking, no longer engaging with peers in an age-appropriate manner, or bedwetting.

#60-Anger Control

Children may have trouble with anger control. This item may be correlated but not limited to the following items: Legal, Conduct, and Impulse Control

Items within the Child Risk Behavior domain can also capture externalizing behaviors. To learn more about how to score this domain, please watch the on-demand video entitled, "Child Risk Behaviors."