

**Professional Assessment Instrument**

***Public Opinion Survey of Human Attributes–Stuttering/Child  
(POSHA–S/Child)***

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TPT (<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/POSHASChild-in-English-for-Stuttering-7821535>)**

**Sample Reference**

**Weidner, M. E., St. Louis, K. O., Burgess, M. E., & LeMasters, S. N. (2015).  
Attitudes toward stuttering of nonstuttering preschool and  
kindergarten children: A comparison using a standard instrument  
prototype. *Journal Fluency Disorders, 44*, 74-87.**

## ***Public Opinion Survey of Human Attributes–Stuttering/Child (POSHA–S/Child)***

The *Public Opinion Survey of Human Attributes–Stuttering/Child (POSHA–S/Child)* is an evidence-based survey instrument designed to measure children’s attitudes toward stuttering. The instrument has undergone research to assure that it is valid (i.e., measures what it is intended to measure), is reliable (i.e., measures the same constructs in repeated surveys), is translatable to other languages, is user-friendly, and produces meaningful results with modest sample sizes. The *POSHA–S/Child* has been used in several published studies on children’s stuttering attitudes in a number of different countries.

The *POSHA–S/Child* is an orally administered questionnaire asking about beliefs and reactions related to stuttering. It begins with a short cartoon video of two children stuttering and explains what stuttering is. Then it proceeds to ask what children think about the cause of stuttering, what they believe they would feel or do if confronted with a peer who stutters, who they believe should help children who stutter, how concerned they would be if various people stuttered, and what they believe regarding what stutterers can or should do in their lives. Questions are in a yes/no format and are scored as “yes,” “no,” or “not sure.” With pairs of drawings, it also compares their appraisal of the seriousness of stuttering compared to two other negative “anchor” attributes, being obese or being confined to a wheelchair. A separate written demographic section is filled out by the child’s parent or guardian. It asks for information about the child’s age, gender, school situation and grade level, languages known, health, and speaking or learning ability. It also asks for the informant’s income relative both the respondent’s family and friends and all the people in that person’s country.

Older children, typically after the 4<sup>th</sup> grade can fill out the demographic section themselves, and also can fill out a written version of the stuttering questionnaire.

The *POSHA–S/Child* can be used as a **group or research tool** and filled out by a sample respondents who represent various populations (for example, preschool children in a city in west Texas or elementary school children in southern Minnesota) so that the results can be generalized to those populations. It can also be used as a **clinical tool** to measure the attitudes of individual children, such as the brother or sister of a stuttering child in your caseload or classroom. In addition, the *POSHA–S/Child* can be used as a **teaching tool** to survey a class and then use the results to introduce a lesson or module designed to reduce teasing or bullying of stuttering children.