

The Star-Wave Test Across the Life Span

Advances in Theory, Research and Practice

Dafna Yalon

The Star-Wave Test, first introduced in 1979 by Ursula Avé-Lallement, is a powerful personality test for all age groups. Drawing "A starry sky over ocean waves" is quick and easy to do, but highly informative. It depicts strengths and problems in the cognitive, emotional, social and behavioural spheres. It often reveals hidden potentials, inner conflicts and repressed memories, as well as the influence of life-events, authority figures and professional interventions. With its developmental norms and scales, it is especially useful for children, even preschoolers, from 3 years upwards. It can also be used in a validated procedure of early screening for school maturity. The unique, validated analysis of clusters of the graphic signs of distress, makes it possible to distinguish between temporary states and more permanent traits

This book synthesizes the discoveries in theory, research and practice that have accumulated in the last 25 years in four continents. Experience with all age-groups and in different cultural settings allows in-depth understanding of the universal and idiosyncratic aspects of the drawings worldwide. The pictures of stars over waves can be seen as "mental maps", expressing the test-takers' narratives of their existential experience in their environment. This book aims to provide professionals in fields such as education and human resources with a highly effective screening tool, and to guide therapists and counsellors through these primordial landscapes, so that they are better able to help their clients find their own way.

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