

Special Olympics Young Athletes

Motor Assessment

Introduction

Special Olympics Young Athletes

Special Olympics Young Athletes is a sport and play program for children with and without intellectual disabilities (ID), ages 2 to 7 years old. Young Athletes introduces basic sport skills, like running, kicking and throwing. Young Athletes offers families, teachers, caregivers and people from the community the chance to share the joy of sports with all children.

Children of all abilities take part, and they all benefit.

Children learn how to play with others and develop important skills for learning. Children also learn to share, take turns and follow directions. These skills help children in family, community and school activities.

Young Athletes is a fun way for children to get fit. It is important to teach children healthy habits while they are young. This can set the stage for a life of physical activity, friendships and learning.

Young Athletes is easy to do and fun for all. It can be done at home, in schools or in the community using the Young Athletes Activity Guide and basic equipment. Through Young Athletes, all children, their families and members of the community can be part of an inclusive team.





Introduction

Motor Assessment

The Young Athletes Motor Assessment is designed for educators, parents, caregivers and coaches who are interested in having an objective measure of motor performance. Special Olympics Programs can use information from the assessment to modify programming as they deem appropriate. Special Olympics Programs wanting to use information from the assessment to promote Young Athletes or seek funding should contact the Young Athletes team at Special Olympics International.

Because the items from the Young Athletes Motor Assessment directly assess the skills taught in the Young Athletes Curriculum, this tool is considered a curriculum-based assessment. The term curriculum-based measurement or assessment refers to measurement that uses "direct observation and recording of a student's performance in the local curriculum" (Deno, 1993; Witt, Elliot, Daly, Gresham & Kramer, 1998).

The Young Athletes Motor Assessment has three key components:

- Pre-Young Athletes Assessment: The Pre-Young Athletes assessment should be conducted prior to the start of Young Athletes activities. The assessment provides information about a child's ability to complete specific motor skills in the areas of balance, walking, running, jumping and object manipulation before implementing Young Athletes.
- 2. Post-Young Athletes Assessment: The Post-Young Athletes assessment should be conducted after a child has participated in 8-10 weeks of Young Athletes activities. The assessment provides information about a child's ability to complete specific motor skills in the areas of balance, walking, running, jumping and object manipulation after implementing Young Athletes.
- Young Athletes Motor Assessment Summary: The assessment summary is a tool for the facilitator to compare the pre and post data to evaluate growth and progress.

The Young Athletes Motor Skills Assessment is *not a standardized instrument*, and should not be used for purposes other than what is described here. For example, it is not recommended that the assessment be used for reporting motor skills on a child's Individualized Education Plan (IEP), diagnosis of disability or to equate the scores from the assessment to developmental milestones. The tool does not currently possess reliability and validity data and should not be used beyond the purposes for which it was designed: to provide information about the child's abilities at the time of testing.

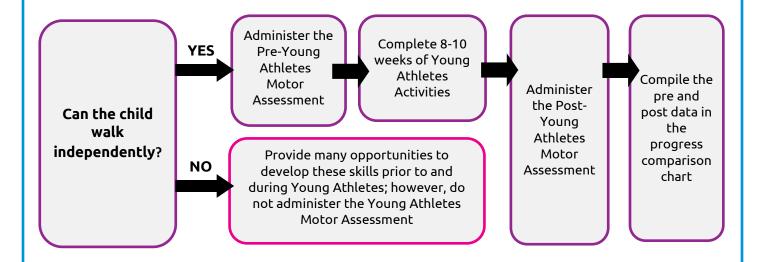






Introduction

Steps to Using the Young Athletes Motor Assessment



Materials Needed

The following items will be needed to conduct the Motor Assessment. If you have a Young Athletes equipment kit, it is best to use the materials from the kit:

- 1. Measuring tape
- 2. Scarf
- 3. Stop watch
- 4. Wide tape—for creating a line or balance beam on the floor
- 5. Medium ball—medium inflatable ball or size 4 soccer ball for catching and kicking
- 6. Small ball—size of a tennis ball
- 7. Large block or small step—for jumping











Pre-Young Athletes Assessment

Pre-Assessment

The following assessment should be conducted prior to a child participating in Young Athletes activities.

Each child should be assessed individually, if possible, to minimize distractions and ensure accuracy of recording responses. The assessment will take about 15-20 minutes per child. To begin, the assessment process should be explained to the child. Suggested language is provided below:

"Today we are going to play some games. First, I will explain what I want you to do and then show you what to do. Then it will be your turn to do what I did. If you do not understand what I want you to do, I will show you again. The important thing is to do your best and to have fun. Some of the things I will ask you to do are easy and other things may be hard. Just try and do your best."

Start with Item 1. Explain each activity to the child out loud and then demonstrate the skill. If the child does not understand, explain the activity and demonstrate it a second time. For each item, the tester should give the child two chances to complete the skill and then record the best score. If a child is unable to complete a skill, select "N/A" and continue to the next skill. If "N/A" is selected, no data should be entered.

Before beginning the assessment, please complete the following information:

Date:_____
Child's Name:_____ Child's Age:_____

How is the child's attitude/mood today? Please use this area to explain any factors that might impact the child's ability to perform to the best of their abilities:

PRE—YOUNG ATHLETES ASSESSMENT

		Skill	Procedure/Materials	Sco	ring	
	1. Stand on One Foot		 Demonstrate standing on one foot with arms crossed at chest and opposite knee bent Child stands with arms crossed at chest and bends non-standing knee Use a stopwatch and record how 	How many seconds was the child able to stand on the right foot?	seconds	□ N/A
Balance			long the child can stand on one foot. Stop timing at 30 seconds Repeat standing on the other foot	How many seconds was the child able to stand on the left foot?	seconds	□ N/A
	2.	Stand on Tiptoes	 Demonstrate standing on tiptoes with hands reaching over head Child stands on tiptoes with hands reaching over head Use a stopwatch and record how long the child can stand on tip toes. Stop timing at 30 seconds 	How many seconds was the child able to stand on their tiptoes ?	seconds	□ N/A
	1.	Walk a Line	 Demonstrate walking on a line one foot in front of the other Child walks on the line attempting to keep both feet on 	How many feet was the child able to keep on the line? (circle answer)	0 1 2	□ N/A
6	the line - Record if the child was able to keep 0, 1 or 2 feet on the line		How far was the child able to walk with 1 or 2 feet on the line?	meters	□ N/A	
Walkin	2.	Walk and Carry	 Child walks carrying a mediumsize object Record how far the child can walk and carry an object up to 25 meters 	How far was the child able to walk?		□ N/A
	3.	 Demonstrate walking sideways on a line Child walks sideways on a line Record how far the child can walk sideways up to 5 meters 		How far was the child able to walk?	meters	□ N/A
	4.	Walk Backwards	 Demonstrate walking backwards Child walks backwards Record how far the child can walk backwards up to 5 meters 	How far was the child able to walk?	meters	□ N/A

PRE—YOUNG ATHLETES ASSESSMENT

		Skill	Procedure/Materials	Scoring							
	1.	Running Form	 Child runs at least 15 meters Record if the child is able to run (both feet are momentarily off 	Is the child able to run? (check answer)	☐ Yes ☐ No	□ N/A					
			the ground at the same time) Record if the child runs flat- footed or on the ball of the foot Record if the child runs with arms at side, arms crossing in front of	Does the child run flat- footed or on the ball of the foot? (check answer)		□ N/A					
Running			the body or with arms reciprocally swinging forward and back	Where are the child's arms when they run? (check answer)		□ N/A					
_	2.	Running Speed Short Distance	 Child runs 5 meters Use a stopwatch and record how long it takes the child to run 5 meters 	How many seconds did it take the child to run 5 meters?	seconds	□ N/A					
	3.	Running Speed Long Distance	 Child runs 10 meters Use a stopwatch and record how long it takes the child to run 10 meters 	How many seconds did it take the child to run 10 meters?							
	1.	Jump Down	 Demonstrate jumping down from a step with 2 feet landing at the same time Child jumps down from a step Record if the child lands with both feet at the same time 	Was the child able to land with both feet at the same time?		□ N/A					
<u>g</u> u				How far was the child able to jump?	centimeters	□ N/A					
Jumping			 Record the distance of the jump and if the child pushed off evenly 	Was the child able to push off evenly and land on both feet?	☐ Yes ☐ No	□ √A					
	and landing with both feet - Child jumps up as high as possible - Record if the height the child was able to jump and if there was an even push off and landing with		How high was the child able to jump?	centimeters	□ N/A						
			 Record if the height the child was able to jump and if there was an even push off and landing with 	Was the child able to push off evenly and land on both feet?	□ Yes □ No	□ √A					
	4.	Hop on One Foot	 Demonstrating hopping on 1 foot without putting the other foot down Child hops on one foot Record how many times the child can hop 	How many times is the child able to hop?	times	□ N/A					

PRE—YOUNG ATHLETES ASSESSMENT

		Skill	Procedure/Materials		Scoring
	1.	Roll a Ball	 While sitting on the floor with the legs apart roll a ball 1 meter to the child who is sitting in the same position, facing you Record if the child is able to roll the ball back 	Was the child able to roll the ball back to you?	□ Yes □ No N/A
	2.	Hold a Scarf	 Ask the child to pick up a scarf 	How did the child pick up the scarf?	☐ With fingers and palm ☐ With 3 or more fingers ☐ With 2 finger pads
	3.	Catch a Medium Size Ball	 While standing, toss a ball so it arrives at the child, chest height Record if the child extends the arms to catch the ball Record if the child is successful 	Was the child able to extend arms to catch the ball? Was the child successful in catching	□ Yes □ No □ Yes □ No
ject Manipulation		Underhand Throw	 in catching the ball Demonstrate tossing a ball underhand (with one hand) at least 3 meters Child tosses a ball underhand as far as possible Record how far the child tosses the ball 	the ball? How far was the child able to toss the ball?	meters N/A
Object Ma	5.	Overhand Throw	 Demonstrate throwing a small ball overhand (with one hand) at least 3 meters Child throws a ball overhand as far as possible Record how far the child tosses the ball 	How far was the child able to toss the ball?	meters N/A
	6.	Kick a Medium Size Ball	 Demonstrate kicking a stationary ball at least 4 meters Child kicks a stationary ball at far as possible Record how far the child kicks the ball 	How far was the child able to kick the ball?	meters
	7.	Kick a Rolled Ball	 Demonstrate kicking a moving ball that has been rolled toward the kicker Roll a ball to the child, child kicks the ball as far as possible Record how far the child kicks the ball 	How far was the child able to kick the ball?	meters

Post-Young Athletes Assessment

Post - Assessment

The following assessment should be conducted after the child has participated in Young Athletes activities for 8-10 weeks.

Each child should be assessed individually, if possible, to minimize distractions and ensure accuracy of recording responses. The assessment will take about 15-20 minutes per child. To begin, the assessment process should be explained to the child. Suggested language is provided below:

"Today we are going to play some games. First, I will explain what I want you to do and then show you what to do. Then it will be your turn to do what I did. If you do not understand what I want you to do, I will show you again. The important thing is to do your best and to have fun. Some of the things I will ask you to do are easy and other things may be hard. Just try and do your best."

Start with Item 1. Explain each activity to the child out loud and then demonstrate the skill. If the child does not understand, explain the activity and demonstrate it a second time. For each item, the tester should give the child two chances to complete the skill and record the best score. If a child is unable to complete a skill, select "N/A" and continue to the next skill. If "N/A" is selected, no data should be entered.

Before beginning the assessment, please complete the following information:

Child's Name:	Child's Age:
How many weeks has the child parti	icipated in Young Athletes?
How is the child's attitude/mood to factors that might impact the child' abilities:	day? Please use this area to explain any s ability to perform to the best of their

POST—YOUNG ATHLETES ASSESSMENT

		Skill	Procedure/Materials	Scoring							
	1. Stand on One Foot		 Demonstrate standing on one foot with arms crossed at chest and opposite knee bent Child stands with arms crossed at chest and bends non-standing knee Use a stopwatch and record how 	How many seconds was the child able to stand on the right foot?	seconds	□ N/A					
Balance			long the child can stand on one foot. Stop timing at 30 seconds Repeat standing on the other foot	How many seconds was the child able to stand on the left foot?	seconds	□ N/A					
	2.	Stand on Tiptoes	 Demonstrate standing on tiptoes with hands reaching over head Child stands on tiptoes with hands reaching over head Use a stopwatch and record how long the child can stand on tip toes. Stop timing at 30 seconds 	How many seconds was the child able to stand on their tiptoes ?	seconds	□ N/A					
	on – Ch		one foot in front of the other - Child walks on the line attempting to keep both feet on	How many feet was the child able to keep on the line? (circle answer)	0 1 2	□ N/A					
61			 the line Record if the child was able to keep 0, 1 or 2 feet on the line Record the distance the child was able to walk with 1 or 2 feet on the line 	How far was the child able to walk with 1 or 2 feet on the line?	meters	□ N/A					
Walking	2.	 Walk and Carry Child walks carrying a mediumsize object Record how far the child can walk and carry an object up to 25 meters 		How far was the child able to walk?		□ N/A					
	3.			How far was the child able to walk?	meters	□ N/A					
	4.			How far was the child able to walk?	meters	□ N/A					

POST—YOUNG ATHLETES ASSESSMENT

		Skill	Procedure/Materials	Scoring						
	1.	Running Form	 Child runs at least 15 meters Record if the child is able to run (both feet are momentarily off 	Is the child able to run? (check answer)	□ Yes □ No	□ N/A				
			the ground at the same time) Record if the child runs flat- footed or on the ball of the foot Record if the child runs with arms at side, arms crossing in front of	Does the child run flat- footed or on the ball of the foot? (check answer)	☐ Flat Footed ☐ On Ball of Foot	□ N/A				
Running	the body or with arms reciprocally swinging forward		Where are the child's arms when they run? (check answer)	☐ At their side ☐ In front of body ☐ Swinging back and forth						
	long it takes the child to run 5			How many seconds did it take the child to run 5 meters?	seconds					
	3.	Running Speed Long Distance	 Child runs 10 meters Use a stopwatch and record how long it takes the child to run 10 meters 	How many seconds did it take the child to run 10 meters?	seconds	□ N/A				
	1.	Jump Down	 Demonstrate jumping down from a step with 2 feet landing at the same time Child jumps down from a step Record if the child lands with both feet at the same time 	Was the child able to land with both feet at the same time?	□ Yes □ No	□ N/A				
Бu			How far was the child able to jump?	centimeters	□ N/A					
Jumping			 Record the distance of the jump and if the child pushed off evenly and landed with both feet 	Was the child able to push off evenly and land on both feet?	□ Yes □ No	□ N/A				
	and landing with both feet - Child jumps up as high as possible - Record if the height the child was able to jump and if there was an even push off and landing with		How high was the child able to jump?	centimeters	□ N/A					
			 Record if the height the child was able to jump and if there was an even push off and landing with 	Was the child able to push off evenly and land on both feet?	□ Yes □ No	□ N/A				
	4.	Hop on One Foot	 Demonstrating hopping on 1 foot without putting the other foot down Child hops on one foot Record how many times the child can hop 	How many times is the child able to hop?	times	□ N/A				

POST—YOUNG ATHLETES ASSESSMENT

		Skill	Procedure/Materials	Scoring							
	1. Roll a Ball		- While sitting on the floor with the legs apart roll a ball 1 meter to the child who is sitting in the same position, facing you	Was the child able to roll the ball back to you?	□ Yes □ No	□ N/A					
			 Record if the child is able to roll the ball back 								
	2.	Hold a Scarf	 Ask the child to pick up a scarf 	How did the child pick up the scarf?	□ With fingers and palm□ With 3 or more fingers□ With 2 finger pads	□ N/A					
	3.	Catch a Medium Size Ball	 While standing, toss a ball so it arrives at the child, chest height Record if the child extends the 	Was the child able to extend arms to catch the ball?	□ Yes □ No	□ N/A					
			arms to catch the ball - Record if the child is successful in catching the ball	Was the child successful in catching the ball?	□ Yes □ No	□ N/A					
pulation	4. Underhand Throw		 Demonstrate tossing a ball underhand (with one hand) at least 3 meters Child tosses a ball underhand as far as possible Record how far the child tosses 	How far was the child able to toss the ball?	meters	□ N/A					
Object Manipulation	5.	Overhand Throw	 the ball Demonstrate throwing a small ball overhand (with one hand) at least 3 meters Child throws a ball overhand as far as possible Record how far the child tosses the ball 	How far was the child able to toss the ball?	meters						
	6.	Kick a Medium Size Ball	 Demonstrate kicking a stationary ball at least 4 meters Child kicks a stationary ball at far as possible Record how far the child kicks the ball 	How far was the child able to kick the ball?	meters	□ N/A					
	7.	Kick a Rolled Ball	 Demonstrate kicking a moving ball that has been rolled toward the kicker Roll a ball to the child, child kicks the ball as far as possible Record how far the child kicks the ball 	How far was the child able to kick the ball?	meters	□ N/A					

Young Athletes Motor Assessment Summary

Motor Assessment Summary

The assessment summary is a tool to compare the pre and post data to evaluate growth and progress made in Young Athletes. The motor assessment summary should be done **after** the post-assessment has been completed.

Starting with item 1, record the data from the pre and post assessment. If a child was unable to complete a skill, select "N/A."

Date:	
Child's Name:	Child's Age:
How many weeks has the child p	participated in Young Athletes?
How was the child's mood/attite Please use this area to explain a to perform to the best of their a	ude in the pre-assessment versus the post-assessment? any factors that might have impacted the child's ability abilities in either assessment:
Based on the pre and post asses during future Young Athletes so	ssment, what skills can the child continue to develop essions and at home?

YOUNG ATHLETES MOTOR ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

	Skill			Pre-Assessmer	nt	Post-Assessme	nt	Change
	1.	Stand on One Foot	How many seconds was the child able to stand on the right foot?	seconds	□ N/A	seconds	□ N/A	
Balance			How many seconds was the child able to stand on the left	seconds	□ N/A	seconds	□ N/A	
	2.	Stand on Tiptoes	How many seconds was the child able to stand on their tiptoes ?	seconds	□ N/A	seconds	□ N/A	
	1.	Walk a Line	How many feet was the child able to keep on the line?	0 1 2	□ N/A	0 1 2	□ N/A	
б			How far was the child able to walk with 1 or 2 feet on the line?	meters	□ N/A	meters	□ N/A	
Walking	2.	Walk and Carry	How far was the child able to walk?	meters	□ N/A	meters	□ N/A	
	3.	Sidestep	How far was the child able to walk?	meters	□ N/A	meters	□ N/A	
	4.	Walk Backwards	How far was the child able to walk?	meters	□ N/A	meters	□ N/A	

YOUNG ATHLETES MOTOR ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

	Skill				Pre-Assessment				Post-Assessment				Change	
	1.	Running Form	Is the child able to run? (check answer)		Yes		No	□ N/A		Yes		No	□ N/A	
			Does the child run flat-footed or on the ball of the foot? (check answer)		lat Foo On Ball		ot	□ N/A		ilat Foo On Ball		ot	□ N/A	
Running			Where are the child's arms when they run? (check answer)	□ Ir	☐ At their side ☐ In front of body ☐ Swinging back and forth		□ N/A	Пι	At their n front Swingin th	of bo	_	□ N/A		
	2.	Running Speed Short Distance	How many seconds did it take the child to run 5 meters?			_ secor	nds	□ N/A			_seco	nds	□ N/A	
	3.	Running Speed Long Distance	How many seconds did it take the child to run 10 meters?			_ secor	nds	□ N/A			_seco	nds	□ N/A	
	1.	Jump Down	Was the child able to land with both feet at the same time?		Yes	_	No	□ N/A	0	Yes	_	No	□ N/A	
ing	2.	Jump Forward	How far was the child able to jump?			_cent	imeters	□ N/A			_cent	imeters	□ N/A	
Jumping			Was the child able to push off evenly and land on both feet?		Yes	_	No	□ N/A		Yes		No	□ N/A	
	3.	Jump High	How high was the child able to jump?			_centir	meters	□ N/A			centi	meters	□ N/A	
			Was the child able to push off evenly and land		Yes	_	No	□ N/A		Yes	_	No	□ N/A	
	4.	Hop on One Foot	How many times is the child able to hop?			tir	mes	□ N/A			ti	mes	□ N/A	

YOUNG ATHLETES MOTOR ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

	Skill			Pre-Assessment					Post-Assessment				Change	
	1.	Roll a Ball	Was the child able to roll the ball back to you?	_	Yes	0	No	□ N/A	_	Yes	_	No	□ N/A	
			How did the child pick up the scarf?	☐ With fingers and palm ☐ With 3 or more fingers			□ With fingers and palm□ With 3 or more fingers							
	3.	Catch a Medium Size Ball	Was the child able to extend arms to catch the ball?	_	Yes		No	□ N/A	_	Yes	0	No	□ N/A	
Object Manipulation			Was the child successful in catching the ball?		Yes		No	□ N/A		Yes	0	No	□ N/A	
	4.	Underhand Throw	How far was the child able to toss the ball?			m	eters	□ N/A			m	eters	□ N/A	
	5.	Overhand Throw	How far was the child able to toss the ball?			m	eters	□ N/A			m	eters	□ N/A	
	6.	Kick a Medium Size Ball	How far was the child able to kick the ball?			m	eters	□ N/A			m	eters	□ N/A	
	7.	Kick a Rolled Ball	How far was the child able to kick the ball?			m	eters	□ N/A			m	eters	□ N/A	