

ASSESSMENT COVER SHEET

Family Name:	Given Name(s):
Binara Kasthurirathna	Binara
Student ID : 1084731	Course: Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education
Unit Code: ECEC101	Unit Name: Child Development (Birth-5)
Tutor : Sonia Sin	Assessment Number/Title: ECEC101 Assessment Task 1
Semester/Trimester and Year:	Word Count:

IMAGE 1: BABY'S RATTLE



Age Range: 0-6 months

Developmental Milestone: Palmar Grasp Reflex

Caption:

I can wrap my tiny fingers around this colorful rattle when someone puts it in my hand! My grip is still reflexive, and I don't really control it yet, but holding onto things is one of my first ways of exploring. This palmar grasp reflex is foundational to my physical development, as it represents the beginning of my fine motor skill journey (Berk, 2023).

IMAGE 2: SMALL SHOES



Age Range: 1-2 years

Developmental Milestone: Independent Walking

Caption:

Look at me - I can walk all by myself now! These little shoes protect my feet as I toddle around the room, sometimes stumbling but always getting back up to try again. According to Gallahue et al. (2012), learning to walk independently is a fundamental gross motor milestone that demonstrates my developing balance, coordination, and confidence in moving through space.

IMAGE 3: STACKED BLOCKS



Age Range: 1-2 years

Developmental Milestone: Fine Motor Stacking and Hand-Eye Coordination

Caption:

I can stack these blocks one on top of another - three, sometimes even four high before they tumble down! My fingers are getting stronger and I'm learning to control them more precisely, which helps me place each block carefully. This hand-eye coordination and fine motor control is essential for my cognitive and physical development, as Piaget (2001) explained that I learn about concepts like balance and gravity through physical manipulation.

IMAGE 4: BALL



Age Range: 2-3 years

Developmental Milestone: Gross Motor Skills - Kicking and Throwing

Caption:

I can kick this ball really hard and throw it too, even if it doesn't always go where I want! My legs are so much stronger now and I'm learning how my body moves through space when I run after the ball. Gallahue et al. (2012) describe these actions as fundamental movement skills that form the building blocks for all the sports and physical activities I'll do later in life.

IMAGE 5: TRICYCLE



Age Range: 3-4 years

Developmental Milestone: Complex Coordination and Pedaling

Caption:

Pedaling my tricycle makes me feel so big and fast! I have to push with my legs, steer with my hands, and watch where I'm going all at the same time - it's tricky but I'm getting really good at it. This complex coordination demonstrates how my gross motor skills are becoming more refined and purposeful, involving the integration of multiple body systems working together (Davies, 2010).

IMAGE 6: CRAYON AND DRAWING



Age Range: 3-4 years

Developmental Milestone: Tripod Grasp and Pre-Writing Skills

Caption:

I can hold this crayon properly now and draw circles, lines, and even try to write my name! My grip has changed from holding it in my whole fist to using just my fingers, which gives me much better control. The Early Years Learning Framework (DEEWR, 2009) recognizes that these emerging fine motor skills and the tripod grasp are essential foundations for writing and other detailed tasks I'll need for school.

IMAGE 7: CHILD-SAFE SCISSORS



Age Range: 4-5 years

Developmental Milestone: Bilateral Coordination and Fine Motor Control

Caption:

Cutting scissors with scissors is one of the hardest things I've learned - I have to open and close the scissors while moving the paper with my other hand! My fingers are strong enough now and my brain can coordinate these complicated movements between both hands. Case-Smith and O'Brien (2015) explain that this bilateral coordination, where each hand does a different job, represents a sophisticated level of fine motor development.

IMAGE 8: PARK LADDER



Age Range: 4-5 years

Developmental Milestone: Advanced Gross Motor - Climbing and Strength

Caption:

I can climb up this tall ladder all by myself using my arms and legs together! I'm not scared anymore because I know my body is strong, I can balance well, and I trust myself not to fall. Vygotsky (1978) would say I've moved through my zone of proximal development - what I once needed help with from grown-ups; I can now do independently because my gross motor skills have developed so much.

IMAGE 9: HOPSCOTCH GRID



Age Range: 5 years

Developmental Milestone: Advanced Balance, Hopping, and Motor Planning

Caption:

Hopping on one foot through all these squares requires balance, strength, and so much concentration! I must plan each jump, control my body, and not wobble or fall over. These complex motor patterns show the incredible physical journey I've been on from being a tiny baby who could barely hold a rattle to now being able to perform advanced movements that require strength, balance, and coordination all working together (Payne & Isaacs, 2020).

REFERENCES

- Berk, L. E. (2023). Child development (11th ed.). Pearson Education.
- Case-Smith, J., & O'Brien, J. C. (2015). Occupational therapy for children and adolescents (7th ed.). Elsevier Health Sciences.
- Davies, M. (2010). Children's gross motor skills. In C. H. Hart (Ed.), Childhood social development (pp. 456-475). Wiley-Blackwell.
- Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. (2009). Belonging, being & becoming: The early years learning framework for Australia. Commonwealth of Australia. https://www.acecqa.gov.au/sites/default/files/2023-01/EYLF-2022-V2.0.pdf
- Gallahue, D. L., Ozmun, J. C., & Goodway, J. D. (2012). Understanding motor development: Infants, children, adolescents, adults (7th ed.). McGraw-Hill.
- Payne, V. G., & Isaacs, L. D. (2020). Human motor development: A lifespan approach (10th ed.). Routledge.
- Piaget, J. (2001). The psychology of intelligence. Routledge. (Original work published 1950)
- Vygotsky, L. S. (1978). Mind in society: The development of higher psychological processes. Harvard University Press.