





Evolution of a physical fitness assessment campaign towards other domains of physical literacy

BRAU A., MOUTON A., MEUNIER B., FONTAINE A-M., FRANCE A., GOFFAUX V., & VERCRUYSSE B.



BACKGROUND

- From 1991 to 2022, in the Province of Luxembourg, a physical fitness assessment was organized for children aged 10 to 12.
- Each year, in October and November, more than 5,000 students completed 8 fitness tests.
- Assessing physical fitness alone was a limitation. Multiple factors influence children's engagement and participation in physical activities.
- ✓ The concept of physical literacy is more appropriate for taking responsibility for engaging in physical activities for life. (1)



OBJECTIVES

✓ The purpose of this study was to develop a more comprehensive tool for assessing certain domains of physical literacy, based on a campaign focusing on physical fitness assessment.



METHODS

Physical fitness of the participants (n=1575; 11.1 ± 0.44 years) was measured by 6 tests.

- Modified sit-up test
- Vertical jump test
- Seated Medicine ball throw test
- Sit and reach test
- Sprint test
- 20-m shuttle run test.



Motor skills of the same participants were assessed in a continuous dynamic obstacle course. Four tasks coming from the Dragon Challenge (2) were selected. The success or failure of each task was evaluated.

- Wobble spot
- Core agility
- Overarm throw and catch
- Jumping patterns





Physical activity and sedentary lifestyle were measured by a parental online survey. Parents answered questions about children's participation in physical

activities, transportation, screen time and sedentary activities (CAPAS-Q) (3)



RESULTS

Physical fitness tests + Motor tasks n=1575

Parental online survey n=238

Students excluded n=44

Physical fitness tests + Motor tasks + Parental online survey n=194

	Girls (N=789)	Boys (N=786)
Modified sit-up test		
Mean (SD)	38.6 (10.7)	42.7 (11.4)
Missing	1 (0.1%)	0 (0%)
Vertical jump		
Mean (SD)	30.6 (5.68)	31.9 (5.87)
Missing	1 (0.1%)	0 (0%)
Seated Medicine ball throw test		
Mean (SD)	3.69 (0.538)	3.46 (0.502)
Sit and reach test		
Mean (SD)	22.0 (6.85)	15.8 (6.01)
Missing	2 (0.3%)	5 (0.6%)
Sprint test		
Median [Min, Max]	4.32 [3.33, 6.50]	4.19 [3.09, 6.44]
Missing	2 (0.3%)	1 (0.1%)
20-m shuttle run test		
Median [Min, Max]	620 [40.0, 1540]	840 [120, 1920]

Physical fitness tests

	Overall (N=1575)		Overall (N=1575)
Trial 1		Trial 2	
Score 0	38 (2.4%)	Score 0	22 (1.4%)
Score 1	162 (10.3%)	Score 1	101 (6.4%)
Score 2	436 (27.7%)	Score 2	351 (22.3%)
Score 3	620 (39.4%)	Score 3	618 (39.2%)
Score 4	319 (20.3%)	Score 4	482 (30.6%)
		Missing	1 (0.1%)

Mean time = 26,50s

Motor tasks

Parental online survey

All participants (n=194), Girls (n=106) Boys (n=88) Socio-economic index of schools (/20) 11.80 ±3.64

Differences between Trial 1 and Trial 2 for the 4 motor tasks

		•	
		Trial 1	Trial 2
Wobble spot	FAILED	41.8% -	31.4%
Core agility	FAILED	18.6% -	13.9%
Overarm throw and catch	FAILED	43.8% -	29.9%
Jumping patterns	FAILED	9.8% -	3.6%

BMI all participants (kg/m 2) 18.05 ±3.32, Girls 18.19 ±, Boys 17.84 ±3.16

Relationship between RMI & physical tests

	K	eiationsni	p betwee	en Bivii & pi	riysicai	lesis	
		Modified	Vertical	Seated	Sit and		20-m
		sit-up		Medicine ball	reach	Sprint test	shuttle run
		test	jump test	throw test	test		test
В١	/II Spearman Rh	o -0.150 *	-0.230 **	G:0.393***	-0.100	0.330 ***	-0.488 ***
	p-value	0.043	0.002	<.001	0.177	<.001	<.001
	Pearson Rho			B:0.274**			
	p-value			0.0012			
/** ;	*′ 0.001 '**′ 0.01	'*' 0.05					

Relationship between physical tests & motor tasks

Mean time = 28,47s

	Motor task Failed Trial 2	Motor task Passed Trial 2	P-value	
Sprint test & 1	4.40	4.22	0.007*	
Sprint test & 1	±0.41s	±0.40s	0.007	
Sit and reach test & 2	17.07	20.81	0.013*	
Sit allu leatil test & Z	±7.38cm	±7.15cm	0.013	
20-m shuttle run test & 2	981	833	0.048*	
20-III SHuttle run test & 2	±439m	±343m	0.046	
Seated Medicine ball throw	2.98	3.22	0.000*	
test & 1	±0.57m	±0.56m	0.006*	
Seated Medicine ball throw	3.01	3.20	0.010**	
test & 3	±0.45m	±0.61m	0.019**	
* Two Sample t-test **Welch Two Sample t-tes		1 W/ok	hle snot	

2 Core Stability

3 Overarm throw and catch



CONCLUSION & PERSPECTIVES

- A third of the participants failed the balance task and the ball-throwing and catching task on the second trial. The relevance of these two tasks is debated.
- The motor skills evaluated in this study were assessed only on the outcome of task completion, and not on the process of motor skill acquisition. This could be a limitation in the assessment of motor parameters and in the analysis of the relationship with physical parameters.
- Motor tasks revealed some significant relationships with physical tests.
- Upper limb strength in girls, cardiovascular endurance and speed in all participants were weakly correlated with BMI in 11-year-old children.
- Other measurable and non-measurable factors should be exploited to show their impact on physical and motor skills and guide future testing campaigns.

