



Early Years Evaluation - Direct Assessment

Successful learning takes place when children are supported by families, schools, and communities.

Research indicates that most reading difficulties can be prevented with early identification, excellent classroom instruction, and appropriate intervention. This is the premise on which the EYE-DA was created and continues to guide implementation practices. The EYE-DA is an individually administered direct assessment of pre-kindergarten children ages 3 to 6 years. The EYE-DA takes about 45 minutes per child and assesses four key areas of early childhood development: Awareness of Self and Environment, Cognitive Skills, Language and Communication, and Physical Development. A web-based tool has been developed for the EYE-DA which provides immediate scoring and separate reports for each child as well as graphical data represented at the school, district, and provincial levels.

The EYE-DA is designed to assist educators in assessing the developmental skills of children aged 3 to 6 years as they prepare for and make the transition to school. Educators report the most important benefits of the EYE-DA are:

1. It opens the door for communication with parents prior to school entry;
2. Children who may be in need of professional or educational services are identified earlier and can begin to receive assistance prior to or upon school entry; and,
3. The EYE-DA provides a baseline for assessing learning gains.

One administration = Multiple uses in the language of your choice

We recognize the need for data at all levels in education - from the provincial level where it is used to write and evaluate education policies, to the classroom teacher who uses it to guide instruction and evaluate interventions, and finally to parents who are interested in the development and well being of their children. Immediate reporting in English, French or Spanish, unique to each audience, means that data is timely, meaningful, and cost-effective

What does the EYE-DA assess?

Awareness of Self and Environment

A child's understanding of the world and his or her ability to make connections with home and community experiences.

Cognitive Skills

A child's basic math and pre-reading skills and his or her ability to solve problems.

Language and Communication

A child's understanding of spoken language and his or her ability to express thoughts and feelings.

Physical Development

Fine motor: A child's ability to perform small movements that require hand-eye coordination.

Gross motor: A child's ability to perform large movements that involve arms, legs, and body.

