Observing Physical Development

In this activity, you and your group should practice observing typical students of the age most appropriate for your group.

Use the “Observing Physical Development” checklist to take notes while you and your group work through this activity.
Your Jobs

1. Select one of the 3 videos
2. Watch as much as you need to gather evidence about physical development (the next 3 slides are a review of evidence vs analysis, if needed)
3. Use the Observing Physical Development Checklist to collect information
4. When you collect all the relevant evidence, analyze what you saw in the “comments” section
5. Hand in your note-taking sheet when finished
Evidence vs Analysis

Data—what you can actually see and hear—what a video recorder could capture

Example:
• A girl is jumping on one foot
• The girl is about 5 years old
• She is about as tall as the other girls in her class
• She is not over or underweight
• She does not wear glasses
• She maintains balance and smooth movement while jumping
• She jumps like this for about 5 minutes while singing a song

Analysis—you interpret what you see and hear, but only if you have enough evidence

Example:
• This girl has mastered typical gross motor skills for her age
• This girl appears to be of average health and size for her age
Evidence vs Analysis

Data—what you can actually see and hear—what a video recorder could capture

Example:

• A middle school student is playing a clarinet in a corner of the band room
• He plays a musical scale over and over
• His fingers move smoothly through the scales as he plays
• He also taps his foot in time with the playing
• He appears to be someone overweight, and about 4 inches shorter than the other males in the clarinet section

Analysis—you interpret what you see and hear, but only if you have enough evidence

Example:
Evidence vs Analysis

Data—what you can actually see and hear—what a video recorder could capture

Example:

Analysis—you interpret what you see and hear, but only if you have enough evidence

Example:

• This 4th grade girl has typical gross motor skills when playing on the playground
• Her body size shows expected growth patterns for a female her age
• She has some minor health problems that might interfere with learning in the classroom
Adolescents (Middle/secondary Students)

• http://youtu.be/QZeJ0Fn958A
Middle Childhood (Elementary School)

• [http://youtu.be/D4hVP4VBxKk](http://youtu.be/D4hVP4VBxKk)
Early Childhood (Pre-K Students)

• http://youtu.be/imZqDOWtmXI