

The Grade R child – a physical, emotional, social and cognitive profile

Every child is unique. Imagine two babies born at the same hour on the same day. Some differences are immediately obvious. One has dark skin and the other is light. One has blue eyes, the other has black. As they grow, other differences reveal themselves. One learns to walk first while the other speaks first. One needs glasses, the other doesn't.

Most children move through similar stages of development, but not all children do this at the same pace. Each child is unique and different not only in their appearance but also in how they develop and grow.



The indicators on these pages, based on the Department of Education's 'National Early Learning and Development Standards' (NELDS), will help you understand and assess the physical, emotional and social development of the learners in your care.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE PHYSICAL AND MOTOR ABILITIES AND HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

(Development areas: PHYSICAL and COGNITIVE)

Young children are usually physically very active. Their bodies are developing and growing rapidly. They need nutritious food. Proper healthcare and a safe environment are very important to ensure growth and development.

Pre-school children demonstrate abilities and interest in physical activities.

For example, they:

- Jump backwards and forwards.
- Use scissors to cut along a line.