## Critique of a Research Study on Motor Development and Movement Activities of Children

**Purpose:** To examine and critique a research study about the motor, sport and physical activities and behaviors of children, and to compare and contrast the findings of the study to material highlighted in course material.

**Outcome:** A written report, not to exceed four (4) double-spaced, well-written and organized report including an insightful professional and personal reflection related to your career development.

**Direction and Guidelines:**

Find and select a research study that examines the motor development of children (do not select studies examining infants or older children – try to choose an articles where the participants are somewhere between the ages of 2 -12 years old. **Do not**select summary articles, position papers or fitness related studies or one that you have reviewed in other classes.

A. Select a research study that has been reported in a major scientific journal within the past three years. Recommended journals are listed at the end of this assignment description. **Be certain** that the article you select is pertinent tothis course and **at least**one of the course objectives in particular.**If you are unsure whether the article is appropriate, contact your instructor before you write and submit the abstract and at least 5 working days before the assignment due date.**Once you have selected and appropriate article that is interesting to you, summarize and critique the research study. Use your own words to summarize the article. Be careful not to plagiarizethe article; do notcut and paste material to create your abstract.

**Abstract Outline:**

### A. Title page

Author’s Last Name, Initials. (year of publication). Title of the study selected. *Name of the Journal, Volume number,* pages of article.

Your name& Panther ID

Course name and number

### B. Purpose of the study

Briefly explain why the author(s) undertook this research. This is often a concise, one-sentence explanation at the beginning of the article.

### C. Methods or procedures

Briefly explain the protocol used to conduct the investigation. Be concise, and avoid details such as the brand names of equipment used or the town in which subjects were tested.

### D. Results

Explain the results of the study. However, do not attempt to decipher the statistical analysis if you have had no experience with statistics. A simpler way of reporting results is to go directly to the end of the article’s results or discussion section, where the study’s findings are usually explained in non-statistical terminology.

### E. Your Reflections

Discuss your reaction to the research. Was this a worthwhile investigation? Why or why not? Are the findings practical and usable and if so, explain and give examples. What did you learn by conducting this review and how was the article related to this course (be specific) and how could you use the findings in your career (be sure to state your career choice)?This section should reflect considerable thought on your part if you wish to do well on the assignment.

 **F.A*copy(pdf format) of the original article as well as the electronic citation.***

**Evaluation of this assignment will be based on:**

* Writing clarity
* Relevance and accuracy of comments
* Organization
* Adherence to assignment guidelines
* Insightfulness of Reflection (Relevance of study selected to your profession and this course). Be sure to include the following in your reflection:

Has your examination of this study changed your views of movement activities children? Explain your answer. How do the findings of this study support or contradict the information contained within the textbook? How do the results from this study compare and contrast to yourown ideas about the impact movement activities have on human development and motor performance? How will information gained from this study and this course impact your career development?

#### Issues you may encounter after receiving your outcome (grade) for this assignment:

* + - 1. Paper is too brief. Be concise—that means brief but packed with information.
			2. Poor writing or word processing, resulting from little or no proofreading.
			3. Plagiarizing.
			4. Selecting a journal article that is not related to motor development.
			5. Paper is too long. The key to successful abstracting is being able to condense a vast amount of information into a few paragraphs.
			6. Failing to submit a copy of your article with your abstract.

The following journals are recommended, although many others are appropriate as well:

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| *Child Development* | *Journal of Applied Physiology* |
| *Developmental Medicine and Child Neurology* | *Developmental Psychology* |
| *Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise* | *Journal of Human Movement Studies* |
| *Pediatric Exercise Science* | *Journal of Motor Behavior* |
| *Perceptual and Motor Skills* | *Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research* |
| *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sports* | *Journal of Physical Education, Recreation & Dance* |