

Examiners' Report Lead Examiner Feedback

June 2021

Pearson BTEC Technical Diploma in Children's Play, Learning and Development (Early Years Practitioner)

Unit 2: Child Development from Birth Up to Five Years (21221K)



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Introduction

The assessment for this unit follows the format identified in the sample assessment materials. The paper is divided into four activities. Each activity requires learners to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a range of specification topics and apply this knowledge to the Key Person Assessment.

Each of the activities were marked using a 'levels based' approach to assessment where each response is marked holistically rather than the specific number of facts stated from the indicative content. Examples of how the questions were assessed across each mark band can be found below in the individual activity section of the report.

Introduction to the Overall Performance of the Unit

Overall as in previous series, learners continued to answer activities 1a and 1b well, with most learners being able to use the development chart and Victor's Key Person Assessment to complete the activities. The Lead Examiner noted that marks for both these activities remained consistent with the previous series, with activity 1a being answered slightly better than activity 1b. This again was a surprise as in previous series learners have found physical development easier than cognitive development to identify and discuss. This was because several learners interpreted physical development as just gross motor development meaning they were unable to answer the question fully. Some learners are still including areas of development in the question that has not been asked for. Again, it was pleasing to see that many learners were able to identify several relevant factors from the Key Person Assessment and there was a noted improvement in this. However, some learners were often unable to link the identified factors to both Victor's cognitive and physical development leaving the answer unbalanced. Learners tended to focus more on physical development rather than on cognitive development. As in previous series several learners were not able to fully explain the impact of the factors on Victors development, this prevented them from accessing the higher mark bands for activity 2. On the whole, the planning section for activity 3 was good. Learners were able to complete the planning template and were mostly able to plan age-appropriate activities. However, several learners planned an activity to support physical development rather than cognitive development as asked. The justification of the planned activity is where



many learners lost marks, not really understanding how the activity would meet Victor's needs.

Individual Questions

The following section considers each activity on the paper, providing examples of common learner responses and a brief commentary of why the responses gained the marks they did. This section should be considered with the live external assessment and corresponding mark scheme.

Activity 1a

At the pass boundary learners were able to identify some of the relevant cognitive milestones appropriate to a child of four years and six months. They were then able to identify some or all of Victor's actual stage of cognitive development. At the pass boundary conclusions were brief or missing, with some learners not identifying that Victor was meeting developmental milestones or that he had exceeded some milestones. Where learners did not meet the pass boundary it was because they provided the cognitive milestones for a child aged 3 to 4 years instead of the milestones for a child aged 4 to 5 years or included other areas of development instead. Some learners were able to identify the stage Victor had reached in part. However, conclusions drawn were incorrect or missing. At the Distinction boundary the learners were able to identify the relevant cognitive milestones appropriate to a child of four years and six months. They were then able to identify all of Victor's actual stage of cognitive development. The learners were able to make comparisons to the actual milestones Victor had achieved and draw correct conclusions. However, responses on the boundary did not demonstrate strong enough conclusions to achieve full marks nor did they identify that Victor was exceeding in some milestones. Learners that did not meet the distinction boundary was because they only produced a brief conclusion with limited comparisons and judgments.



You are an Early Years Practitioner working at Rosy Apples Preschool. You have been asked by the manager to work with the key person to support Victor's progress.

Activity 1a

The key person has asked for your help in comparing Victor's **cognitive development** against the expected milestones for his age.

Use the development chart and Victor's key person assessment to complete this activity.

Your assessment should:

- · identify the cognitive milestones for a child aged four years and six months
- identify Victor's current stage of cognitive development
- conclude whether Victor's cognitive development meets expected norms.

(6)

Example 1

The learner has identified 2 relevant cognitive milestones and has compared Victor's actual stage of development to these. The learner has identified that Victor is exceeding his developmental milestones for counting and on target for the other areas. It was this statement that moved the mark into mark band 2.

No marks are awarded for comments on other areas of development.



Mark band 2 - 3 marks awarded

Your assessment should:

- identify the cognitive milestones for a child aged four years and six months
- · identify Victor's current stage of cognitive development
- conclude whether Victor's cognitive development meets expected norms.

(6)

The cognitive milestones for a child agad flaur

upars and six months are they need to understand

the need for rules and develop close friendships,

behaviour meetly cooperative play, essential

victor's current stage of cognitive development

is exceeding. This is because the expected

norms are an target and doing better. Victor

is able to count up to 30 accurately whilet

the expected norms are up to 10 which

shows he is exceeding. Victor also understands

the need for rules and enlique playing

with other children.

Example 2

The leaner has identified all areas of development and compared them to Victor's stage of development. A detailed conclusion has been included. Importantly the learner has identified that Victor exceeds the counting milestone by being able to count to 30. Without this the learner would not be able to achieve full marks. **Mark band 3 - 6 marks**



Your assessment should:

- · identify the cognitive milestones for a child aged four years and six months
- · identify Victor's current stage of cognitive development
- · conclude whether Victor's cognitive development meets expected norms.

a duld (6)

At age fours year you fire I strouble be able cognetive to count occurrety up to 10, to add to sets of abjects together match equal sets, the a galled on these age chould understand the need of rules to name the time of day associated with activities, and give reasons to solve problem, however a fuld con talk plant what he proper a fuld con talk plant what he proper of and what magain to solve problem.

Victor's current stag of cognitive development is that he enjoys playing board games with the chilolyan in preschool and understands the need for rules when playing with them.

-When he play nide and seek victor can count to 30 accurally.



He is able to match equal sets during playing with lorides. Either he can count accuratly up to 30 when he plays hide and seek which is above than expected therefor his age and stage but I think his old brother has import positivly to support him learn counting up to 30

It The lawy person assersment has not mention that he is able to have the time of the day have the activities which meand we need to play the activities which him to met his meeds

(Total for Activity 1a = 6 marks)

Activity 1b

At the pass boundary learners were able to identify some of the relevant physical gross motor and / or fine motor milestones appropriate to a child of four years and six months. They were then able to identify some or all of Victor's actual stage of physical development. At the pass boundary conclusions were brief or missing, with some learners not identifying that Victor had exceeded some of the physical milestones or if they had they were not identified. Some even stated he was behind in physical development.

Where learners did not meet the pass boundary it was because they provided the physical milestones for a child aged 3 to 4 years instead of the milestones for a child aged 4 to 5 years. Often only including gross motor milestones. Some learners were able to identify the stage Victor had reached in part. However, conclusions drawn were often incorrect saying development was delayed because not all physical milestones had been included in the Key Person Assessment.

At the Distinction boundary the learners were able to identify the relevant physical milestones appropriate to a child of four years and six months.



They were then able to identify all of Victor's actual stage of physical development. Learners were able to make comparisons to milestones and draw correct conclusions. However, responses on the boundary did not have strong enough conclusions to achieve full marks nor did they identify that Victor was exceeding in some milestones. Learners that did not meet the distinction boundary was because they only produced a brief conclusion with limited comparisons and judgments. Or because it only included gross motor development.

Activity 1b

The key person has asked for your help in comparing Victor's **physical development** against the expected milestones for his age.

Use the development chart and Victor's Key Person Assessment.

Your assessment should:

- identify the physical milestones for a child aged four years and six months
- identify Victor's current stage of physical development
- conclude whether Victor's physical development meets expected norms.

(6)

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Example 3

The learner has identified some milestones as required for mark band 2. The question asks for **physical development** not gross motor development. The learner has included all of the gross motor milestones but no fine motor milestones.

There are some comparisons, and a limited conclusion is drawn. For the learner to achieve 4 marks the conclusion would need to contain more detail.

(6)



Mark band 2 - 3 marks

The key person has asked for your help in comparing Victor's **physical development** against the expected milestones for his age.

Use the development chart and Victor's Key Person Assessment.

Your assessment should:

- identify the physical milestones for a child aged four years and six months
- identify Victor's current stage of physical development
- · conclude whether Victor's physical development meets expected norms.

person has asked holp expected expected 90001 Victor milestone 00200 100



Example 4

The learner has identified all physical milestones and identified the relevant milestones for Victors physical development. A conclusion has been drawn. To have achieved full marks a more detailed conclusion would have been needed stating that Victor is exceeding some physical milestones. Mark

band 3 - 5 marks Your assessment should: CONTROL OF THE PROPERTY OF THE identify the physical milestones for a child aged four years and six months identify Victor's current stage of physical development conclude whether Victor's physical development meets expected norms. the physical milestener for a child of this age are: can run avoid obstacles, skip with a rope, throw a partner and coatch it, good balance and co-ordination down stours one foot at bike. form letters, water own home, colow in pictures, use a knife and fork, thread san According to the K.P.A. for Victor, he can ride a bike confidently and Playing children and he can with confidence Finally. Physi cal agean Assessment.

7



Activity 2

At the pass boundary learners were able to understand the factors that impacted on Victor's development and were able in some cases to say what that impact was but did not demonstrate a strong understanding. The work tended to focus more on one area of development, usually physical development.

Where learners did not meet the pass boundary it was because they did not correctly identify or understand the factors, or simply listed the factors with no explanation. Some learners only focused on factors on one area of development. The focus was predominantly physical development. Occasionally, candidates discussed other areas of development for example, how the absent father may affect Victors emotional development rather than how it may affect his cognitive and physical development. At the distinction boundary the learners were able to explain the factors and the impact these factors had on development. Answers were mainly balanced between both areas of development. A few candidates were able to write concisely about a large range of factors, but the majority tended to select a few factors to discuss.

The work that did not meet the distinction boundary was because the learner normally focused on one area of development over another, so their response was not balanced.

Activity 2

The key person has asked you to investigate the different factors that may impact on Victor's **cognitive and physical development** positively and/or negatively.

Your investigation should:

- · identify factors from the Key Person Assessment
- explain how these factors may affect Victor's cognitive and physical development.

(14)

Example 5

The learner has identified 3 factors. The learner has mentioned both areas of development but there is limited reasoning as to how they affect Victors cognitive and physical development.

Mark band 1 - 3 marks



enone pain is he enjoys pronjery

promen solves gones and trove

prome a posonie inpect on his

cognitive development because he

would be his man work and

impact that physical development

negativey as their man could be rose

busy to take them out to play

Example 6

The learner has shown a range of factors covered with slightly more emphasis on physical development. Some good points raised for how the factors impact Victors physical development. To have gained more marks, a more detailed explanation was needed on the impact of these factors and conclusions needed to be drawn. **Mark band 3 - 8 marks**

(14)



The key person has asked you to investigate the different factors that may impact on Victor's **cognitive and physical development** positively and/or negatively.

Your investigation should:

- · identify factors from the Key Person Assessment
- explain how these factors may affect Victor's cognitive and physical development.

impaic positivel 00 him



cognitive development Victor's time impact 15 because



Example 7

The learner has identified a good range of factors and has demonstrated an in-depth understanding of how these factors impact on cognitive and physical development. The response showed a good balance of both cognitive and physical development. However, the response did not demonstrate sufficient reasoning to gain full marks.

Mark band 4 - 12 marks

The key person has asked you to investigate the different factors that may impact on Victor's **cognitive and physical development** positively and/or negatively.

Your investigation should:

- · identify factors from the Key Person Assessment
- explain how these factors may affect Victor's cognitive and physical development.

(14)

From the key person assessment, there is evidence that victor lives with his mum who is a single parent, he has one older brother who is seven years old, his parents are divorced, he has no contact with his dad as he ke now lives abroad. Victor lives in a flat on a busy.

main road, there is a park across the main road, the plat has no garden and he shares a large bearoom with his brother. These are all pactors impacting victors development.

As victor lives with only his mum who works full time, this oblid impact his cognitive development as he isn't getting only 1:1 time with her to do any look, or play cognitive games for example this factor could also impact his physical development, as his mum



Esser Can't do many outdoor activities





Course at the preschool, which has a positive effect on his physical olivelopment as he is using skills.

Such as bounding which uses gross motor skills.

Activity 3

Learners were able to produce a plan relevant to cognitive development that was mostly age appropriate. In several instances, learners included other areas of development into the plan. The role of the Early Years Practitioner (EYP) was often answered well as was health & safety considerations. Learners often could not justify how or why the activity met the child's needs nor how the activity could be extended. Some responses did not seem to refer to the activity but to other areas of development. This led to learners loosing marks.

The main area for concern was because some learners did not plan a cognitive activity as required but a physical one instead. The targeted milestone (ii) was often not well done as this did not always refer to a milestone in the source material and sometimes was a vague response or did not relate to the activity. The description of the activity (iv) was very brief and often did not make sense making it difficult to follow. Some learners provided a clear description. Timings given for the length of activity (v) were on the whole appropriate for the task. The role of the Early Years Practitioner (vi) was not well done with often vague comments, the most popular comments were 'to supervise, ask questions and prepare the activity'. These are generic responses and learners need to ensure these are contextualised to the activity they are discussing.

Health and Safety issues to be addressed (vii) was another weak section with extremely limited responses. Comments included 'doing a risk assessment' but no further description as to what or why a risk assessment was needed. On some occasions the work included an appropriate plan but the justification was incomplete and/or inappropriate.



At the distinction boundary the activity plans were complete, detailed, and appropriate for a 4- to 5-year-old child. Several learners had identified that there was no evidence in the Key Person Assessment that Victor could identify activities linked to times of the day and as a result, planned activities to support this. The practitioner would be able to carry out this activity using the plan.. The justification for the activity was present with a good understanding of how the resources help meet the planned milestone. Realistic limitations were included though sometimes brief. Relevant recommendations for future planning were included but were again brief.

The plans that did not meet the distinction boundary were normally well-planned age-appropriate activities. However, the justifications for the activity were not always detailed and did not provide appropriate extension activities.

Activity 3

Victor's key person has asked you to plan an activity to promote Victor's **cognitive development**.

To do this you should:

- select a milestone to target, which Victor can achieve in the next three months
- · use the template provided.

(24)

Example 8

This activity is neither age or stage appropriate. The learner has not answered the question as they have planed an activity to support fine motor development and has not included a specific milestone to target. Sometimes within the plan other areas of development can be found as concentration is mentioned here.

Learners should be discouraged from including poor practice in the plans. Here the learner mentions that the child will be made to start again if they go out of the lines, which is not a behaviour strategy we would encourage for a 4 year old as this could be very upsetting and demotivating.

Planning (i-viii) 3 marks Justification(ix-xii) 3 marks - total marks 6



To do this you should:

• select a milestone to target, which Victor can achieve in the next three months

•	use	the	temp	late	provided.
---	-----	-----	------	------	-----------

(24)

i	Title of activity	colouring inside the
ii	Targeted milestone	colour in sectures using fine motor skeus.
iii	Type of activity (This could cover more than one type)	Tick (✔) all that apply Creative
	, v 100 %	Construction
		Imaginative
		S

iv	Length of activity (duration)	30 monutes to 1 hour.
		N of State Care
V	Description of activity	victor well be given a empty template of a picture of his choice. He will then need to
		colour enside the lenes accurately in order to improve his concentration with his fine motor



once he has coloured the pecture without coming out the lenes he is foreshed. However, if vector comes out of the lenes he has to start again.

Practitioner

Supervise Victor whelst he is colouring in.

If he colours out the line you must give him a new template.

Also, ensure any resources which are not being used are kept away super and tray.



vii	Health and safety issues to be addressed	sharp edges on paper could give him a paper cut.
		Any pens left open can cause ink possioning for the wrong place.
		make sure all unused resources are kept away to avoid any accidents.

viii	Resources	Paper pecture templates. colouring pens. pencels.
		starpener.

How activity resources help the child to meet the planned milestone	The templates of the PECTURES WELL have outlines ether dotted or lined in order for victor to guide his pen
27	or pencil and keep inside
5	This well also help with the control of his fine motor skells such as using pens accurately.
	help the child to meet the



X	How the activity meets to child's individual needs	the Victor lekes drawing pictures as well as doing alots of physical activities. This will help victor find soy in doing more activities which can relax the brain and help his concentration levels.
xi	What could limit the success of the activity?	If Victor was not enjoying it. Victor May not like the resources provided such as the templates or the pens and pencils. Not having other resources such as paint.
i	How this activity could be extended in the future for this child	Add more cheldren. Get more complex templates with less space to colour. Add paints and arts and crapts.



Example 9

This is an age and stage appropriate activity with a targeted milestone. The plan is detailed and could be carried out from the plan.

The justification contains limited detail and does not demonstrate that the learner understands how the activity promotes the targeted milestone. This is where the learner has lost marks.

Planning (i-viii) 7 marks Justification(ix-xii) 4 marks - total marks 11

	Title of activity	Matching the equal Sets
		(Pairs) 4-5 years 604065 Matching equal sets
ii	Targeted milestone	4-Syears
		Eanope
		Matching equal sets
iii	Type of activity	Tick (✓) all that apply
	(This could cover more than one type)	Creative
		Construction
		Imaginative
		Sensory
		Physical



iv	Length of activity (duration)	10-20 minutes
V	Description of activity	There will be cards set out on the table turned upside down. The children will take it in turns to pick up 2 cards on the table. This game will help the child test their Memory and to see if they can remember where the cards. The When they get a Pair Correct they have to say what is on the cards.
vi	Role of Early Years Practitioner	The early years Practical Practitioner Should help set up the activity and then they should then Play with the Child to help their cognitive development.



vii	Health and safety issues to be addressed	Make sure the cards stay on the bable and are not thrown around the room.
viii	Resources	A clean table for the activity to take place on. 2 chairs for the Student and the early years Practitioner to sit on. Cards for them to Play the game.
ix	How activity resources help the child to meet the planned milestone	This will help victor Stay at the expected Milestone for matching Pairs
x	How the activity meets the child's individual needs	It will help victors Cognitive development Stay at exceeding for his age.



xi What could li success of the	IF VICTUI ON OCALI
How this activity co extended in the fut this child	



Example 10

This is an exciting and original activity focusing on cognitive development that children would enjoy. The activity is well planned and would stimulate Victor's problem-solving skills. The learner has demonstrated an understanding of how the activity can meet victors planned milestone and has based an activity on Victors interests. The learner has shown an understanding of how the Early Years Practitioner scaffolds learning and how this can in turn, extend the activity.

Planning (i-viii) 8 marks (full marks for planning)Justification (ix-xii) 13 marks Total marks 21

	Title of activity	free the dinosaurs!
ii	Targeted milestone	"give reasons to solve problems"
iii	Type of activity	Tick (✔) all that apply
	(This could cover more than one type)	Creative
		Construction
		Imaginative
		Sensory
		Physical
	Length of activity	5minutes - I have chosen
	(duration)	5 minutes as children of a young age group find it hard to concentrate and stay engaged for a long period of time.



	v	indoors I had chosen indoors as if the weath isn't great an it rains the actruitity wont to plan, as the sand wriget wet etc.	asmall group of children (3 children of how will we free these poor
vi	Pra mu ass be ma ss en	e of Early Years ctitioner he practitioner at ensure a risk essment hey en carried out thang somethere a man around esand tray so mobody ess suring the area	The role of the practitioner is to enlight questions and imagination to see what they can do to free the dinosaurs. The practitioner will ask engaged this also comes with enthusiasm from the practitioner if they see that they are excited is to promote as much independence straight away and listen to the trying them all the childhave and must supervise this activity so if the child is struggling step in to scussors. Give praise and other encouragement to all childs efforts when these who are struggling.



vii	Health and safety issues to be addressed	the hearth and safety issues to be addressed are that the table is monitored so no child eats the sand as it could hazard. There isnt any long children dont accidently around the sand tray so that slip and fall on the children that sip and fall on the what that space suitable so there arent over. Children while the children and tray so that slip and fall on the what that sand fall on the children sand that some of the children that sand the activity will take place in a children charging past and tripping.
viii	Resources	the sand tray to minimise slips sand tray
		sand
		string
	*	seissors (child friendly)
	•	eaues (sensory)
	ŷ	FOSSIIS



ix	How activity resources help the child to meet the planned milestone	The string will help the child meet the planned milestane as that is the problem that they are trying to solve. It is the main resource along with the dinosaus and without throws them both their the scissors will also help the as they could use this resource to included dinosaur fossils to excite make them more enthusiastic.
x	How the activity meets the child's individual needs	This activity meets the individual needs of the child as I have planned an activity based on victors interest of dinosaurs and made an activity from that be engaged and wanting to take interested in.



xi	What could limit the success of the activity?	could be limited if the child Isht feeling well as they are not activity if the child isht reason. It could affect the childs if they are not development as they could fall behind if they are not attending the support they and there may be a more interesting and activity going on elsewhere that and reflict to do your	
cii	How this activity could be extended in the future for this child	in the future by less practitioner support, limiting the questions	



Summary

Learners should be encouraged to complete all sections of each activity and make full use of the space provided for each activity in the answer booklet. Learners should not write answers on blank pages at the back of the booklet as this work may not be seen. If a leaner needs additional space to complete an answer, it should be written on a supplementary answer sheet.

Learners have now developed the skill of interpreting milestones and stages of development for activities 1a and 1b and this can be seen in the responses for these activities. However, learners need to be reminded that physical development includes both fine motor and gross motor development. Learners should **not make assumptions** about a child, as within a setting if you do not see a child achieve a milestone during an observation it does not mean the child has not achieved it. It means you have not observed it and will need to carry out further observations.

Improvements are continued to be made in answering activity 2 at the pass boundary. Learners are identifying the relevant factors for both areas of development from the Key Person Assessment at the beginning of their response. It is recommended that learners have a sound understanding of all areas of development to enable them to discuss the impact of the identified factor on development. When talking about areas of development the learners should not make superficial statements for example, quoting just 'physical development' rather than being specific about which area of physical development was impacted e.g., manipulation, flexibility, strength, coordination.

Learners should ensure that they have produced a balanced response with an equal focus on both areas of development to access the higher mark bands.

Some learners are still not planning activities for the area of development asked for in Activity 3. This has been mentioned in the LE report on several occasions. It is recommended that learners read the question carefully to ensure they plan an activity for the right area of development that is age appropriate. It is also recommended that learners develop an understanding of how these plans meet a child's needs if they are to access the higher mark bands.







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