

ACTIVE

Ask Your Schools Quality Sport Checklist

Preschool and School Programs: Questions to Ask

- 1. Is there enough outdoor space for children to run and play, including ball-kicking and throwing games?
- 2. Is there enough indoor space for children to run and play, including ball-kicking and throwing games?
- 3. Is play space available both for organized activities and for free play?
- 4. Is there climbing equipment for children to climb, hang by their arms, hang upside-down, and otherwise explore?
- 5. Is there enough equipment for all the children to be able to play at the same time?
- 6. Do they have balls of different colours, sizes and textures?
- 7. Do they have scoops, hoops and appropriately sized bats?
- 8. Do they have mats for children to roll and tumble on?
- 9. Do they have scooters and other wheeled toys for children to ride on?
- 10. Is equipment available during free play? (And not only during structured activity times?)
- 11. Is the equipment brightly coloured and in good condition?
- 12. For pre-toddlers, is at least 30 min. per day set aside for structured (adult led) play?
- 13. For toddlers and older, is at least 60 min. per day, set aside for structured (adult led) play?
- 14. Are children being taught fundamental movement skills (0-8 years) or fundamental sport skills (8 years to start of growth spurt)?
- 15. Are program leaders trained to teach fundamental movement skills and fundamental sport skills?
- 16. Are children encouraged in vigorous physical play during unstructured play times?
- 17. Are a variety of activities offered that encourage children to expand their range of movement skills?
- 18. Do the caregivers act as role models by engaging in physical activities with the children?
- 19. Are girls encouraged to be as physically active as the boys?
- 20. Are children with a disability included in all physical activities?

Scorecard

Add up the total number of YES answers:

17-20: Great program. This program encourages maximum development of physical literacy.

13-16: A good program. You might offer ideas on how to improve the program.

9-12: Not a good program for developing physical literacy, but at least there is some opportunity for physical activity. Try to offer suggestions for improvements. If nothing changes, consider alternative programs.

< 9: If there are other programs available in your community, check them out as soon as possible. Sign up your child for a program that does more to develop physical literacy.

Visit ActiveForLife.com to ensure your child enjoys a quality sport experience!

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Ask Your Coaches Quality Sport Checklist

Minor Sports Programs: Questions to Ask

- 1. Is there enough space for children to practice safely while running and playing vigorously?
- 2. Is there enough space for children to compete safely while running and playing vigorously?
- 3. Is the space suitable for the sport being practiced?
- 4. Is there non-sport-specific space that children can use for free play?
- 5. Is there enough equipment for all children to practice at the same time?
- 6. Is the sport equipment of suitable size and weight for the size and strength of the children?
- 7. Is there appropriate sport safety equipment, and is it used consistently?
- 8. Is non-sport-specific equipment available to permit children to learn a wide range of fundamental sport skills?
- 9. Is equipment in good condition?
- 10. Is the sports equipment available for free play (not only during instruction)?
- 11. Are fundamental movement skills taught?
- 12. Are fundamental sport skills taught?
- 13. Do all children get to learn and practice equally?
- 14. Do all children get to play equal amounts of time?
- 15. Do all children get to play different positions, and/or try different events?
- 16. Do coaches correctly manage the ratio of practice time to competition time? (at least 70% practice to no more than 30% competition)?
- 17. Do coaches emphasize skill development over winning?
- 18. Are the coaches trained and/or certified?
- 19. If present, are children with a disability included in all physical activities?
- 20. Do the coaches make learning the sport fun?

Scorecard

Add up the total number of YES answers:

17-20: Great program. This program encourages maximum development of physical literacy.

13-16: A good program. You might offer ideas on how to improve the program.

9-12: Not a good program for developing physical literacy, but at least there is some opportunity for physical activity. Try to offer suggestions for improvements. If nothing changes, consider alternative programs.

< 9: If there are other programs available in your community, check them out as soon as possible. Sign up your child for a program that does more to develop physical literacy.

