

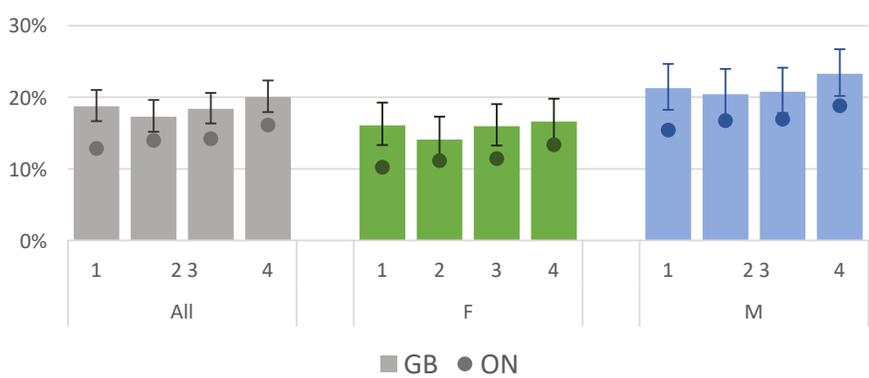


A SUMMARY OF A CALL-TO-ACTION PAPER

DEVELOPING SKILLS FOR LEARNING: FOUNDATIONS OF MOTOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN IN GREY BRUCE

WHAT IS THE ISSUE?

Early Development Instrument (EDI) measurements show that children in Grey Bruce are consistently more likely than Ontario children to score as vulnerable in the Physical Health and Well-Being domain. This includes fine and gross motor skill development. Vulnerability means children are at risk of encountering difficulties in the school years and beyond.



Percentage of Children Scoring in the Vulnerable Range in the Physical Health and Well-being Domain by EDI Cycle and Sex, Grey Bruce and Ontario.

WHAT IS THE EARLY DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (EDI)?

The Early Development Instrument (EDI) is a validated tool used widely across Canada to measure a child's developmental health and well-being at school entry in five key domains. The Physical Health and Well-Being domain covers three subdomains: physical readiness for the school day, physical independence, and gross and fine motor skills.

FINE AND GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

- Holding a pencil
- Manipulating objects

- Jumping
- Coordination and Balance

- Running
- Climbing

THE EARLY YEARS: A CRITICAL TIME FOR MOTOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT

All children need opportunities to learn, play, interact, and explore. Factors that contribute to motor skill development include: physical activity, the role of play, stimulating social and physical environments, instructional approaches, and societal influences.

DEVELOPMENT OF A CALL-TO-ACTION PAPER

The Call-To-Action Paper highlights the importance of partnerships to promote early childhood development and to meet milestones for school readiness. Key stakeholders were engaged to identify strategies for action based on evidence from the literature, frameworks and models, and local data, programs and services.

STRATEGIES FOR ACTION



COLLABORATION FOR ACTION

Locally there are a wealth of skills, resources and knowledge currently acting to support healthy growth and development. There are opportunities for all sectors, community partners and collaborative committees to build on current initiatives and strengthen community action. Key stakeholders include; childcare and early learning centres, health care providers, early intervention services, school boards, schools, educators, municipalities, community organizations, parents and caregivers.

The strategies for action provide considerations when planning programs, services, interventions and policies to help mitigate existing and future developmental disparities. Collaborative action is required in order to create supportive, nurturing environments for all children to learn the fundamental motor skills necessary for school readiness.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information, or if you are interested in the full report contact: **GREY BRUCE HEALTH UNIT**
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**Grey Bruce
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