

Summary of Fitness Test Principles

- The primary reason for testing is to provide the student with personal information that may be used in planning a personal fitness program and developing motivation to take care of their health to reach their maximum potential.
- FitnessGram® is just an assessment; it is what the teachers do with the information that is truly valuable.
- Physical fitness testing should not become a competitive sport.
- The performance of one student should not be compared to that of another student.
- The performance level on fitness tests should not be used as a basis for grading.
- The physical fitness experience should always be fun and enjoyable.
- Students should not be encouraged to perform beyond the benchmarks.

FitnessGram® Tests
Six Recommended Tests Are Bolded

AEROBIC CAPACITY

- 1) **PACER** (Progressive Aerobic Cardiovascular Endurance Run) – Set to music, a paced, 20-meter shuttle run increasing in intensity as time progresses

Or:

- One-Mile Run – Students run (or walk if needed) one mile as fast as they can
- Walk Test – Students walk one mile as fast as they can (for ages 13 or above since the test has only been validated for this age group)



BODY COMPOSITION

- 2) **Skin Fold Test** – Measuring percent body fat by testing the tricep and calf areas

Or:

- Body Mass Index – Calculated from height and weight



MUSCULAR STRENGTH AND ENDURANCE

- 3) **Curl Up** – Measuring abdominal strength and endurance, students lie down with knees bent and feet unanchored. Set to a specified pace, students complete as many repetitions as possible to a maximum of 75



- 4) **Trunk Lift** – Measuring trunk extensor strength, students lie face down and slowly raise their upper body long enough for the tester to measure the distance between the floor and the student's chin

- 5) **Push-Up** – Measuring upper body strength and endurance, students lower body to a 90-degree elbow angle and push up. Set to a specified pace, students complete as many repetitions as possible

Or:

- Modified Pull-Up (proper equipment required) – With hands on a low bar, legs straight and feet touching the ground, students pull up as many repetitions as possible
- Flexed Arm Hang – Students hang their chin above a bar as long as possible



FLEXIBILITY

- 6) **Back-Saver Sit and Reach** – Testing one leg at a time, students sit with one knee bent and one leg straight against a box and reach forward

Or:

- Shoulder Stretch – With one arm over the shoulder and one arm tucked under behind the back, students try to touch their fingers and then alternate arms

