

FITNESSCRAM



- Fitness testing is an essential element of any health-related physical activity program.
- It establishes a baseline from which students can set goals and check progress.
- It also allows students to experience and better understand the components of healthrelated fitness.

More about the Fitnessgram

Fitnessgram is more effective than other available physical fitness tests for three reasons.



- First, it compares scores to carefully researched and developed health standards rather than to national averages.
- Second, it emphasizes measures of health-related physical fitness instead of performance of physical or sport-related skills.
- Third, it goes beyond mere measurement to recommend individualized physical activity program options that will help students in the areas where they need improvement.

What is the Fitnessgram?



 The Fitnessgram is a series of health-related fitness activities that assess physical fitness levels in children.

Why do it?



Students should learn to self-assess their fitness levels and interpret the results. This will help them learn about fitness concepts, plan and set goals for fitness and serve as a motivational tool to remain active on their own.

How will I know if I am fit?

Each student will record their test results on a card. These results will be used as a learning tool for physical fitness. Students will interpret the data and write down their short term and long term goals. This test will be administered again at regular intervals to compare data.



How will I know if I am fit?

Cadets should take the Fitnessgram at the beginning of each school year, then set goals for improvement and track progress towards those goals. Cadets should then take the test again in the Spring, during annual PFT testing period at their schools.



What fitness areas do the activities test?

- Cardio respiratory (Cardiovascular)
 Endurance:
- The 1 mile run...students run as fast as they can for a distance of exactly one mile. Your goal is to improve your time on the run during the course of the year.

Muscular Strength

<u>and</u> Endurance:



· Curl-up Test

 For the curl-up test, the students complete as many curl-ups as they can at a specified pace (maximum 75). The curl-up has been selected because it does not involve the assistance of the hip flexor muscles and minimizes compression in the spine, when compared to a full sit-up with the feet held. Strength and endurance of the abdominals are important in promoting good posture and correct pelvic alignment.

More on Muscular Strength and Endurance:



- · Push-up Test
- The push-up to an elbow angle of 90 degrees is the recommended test for upper body strength and endurance. The test ends if a student:
 - 1. stops to rest
 - 2-does not achieve a 90 degree angle with elbows on each rep;
 - 3-does not maintain correct body position;
 - 4-does not extend arms fully.

Flexibility:



- · Trunk Lift Test
- Students lie prone (face down) with their hands under their thighs. The student lifts the upper body off the floor in a slow, controlled movement to a maximum of 12 inches. Trunk extensor strength and flexibility are important for lower back health, especially vertebral alignment. Musculoskeletal fitness of the abdominals, hamstrings and back extensors work in concert to maintain posture and low back health.

The Shoulder Stretch

- Cadets will be expected to reach behind their back (over their shoulders) and grasp the fingers of the opposite hand
- This is accomplished with both the right and left arms over the shoulder



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