

E **A** **R** **L** **Y**

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STRONG BEGINNINGS • BRIGHT FUTURES



ASSESSMENT TYPES

An evaluation assesses your child's academic and developmental skills. Evaluation teams consider your family's culture and language during this process. You, the parent, are a key member of your child's evaluation team, and we value your participation.

Evaluations include observations, interviews, and assessments. We choose assessments based on your child's needs. Not all assessments are necessary for every child. The back of this handout describes some assessments we may do at Early Stages.



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Vision and Hearing Screenings

look at how your child sees and hears. Every child receives a vision and hearing screening. This screening may show a need for further assessment.

Educational Assessments

look at your child's ability to be successful in a classroom. We may assess how they:

- Learn and understand letters, numbers, shapes, and colors
- Use the bathroom, get dressed, and eat
- Follow directions and share their wants and needs
- Interact with other children and adults

Psychological Assessments

look at strengths, challenges, and differences in many areas. These areas include emotional, behavioral, social, developmental, attentional, and intellectual. Psychological assessments may look for disabilities like Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Speech-language Assessments

look at your child's ability to communicate. We may assess:

- Receptive language (understanding)
- Expressive language (speaking)
- Vocabulary (words your child knows)
- Fluency (how easily your child speaks)
- Articulation (how clearly your child speaks)

Physical Therapy Assessments

look at your child's ability to use large muscles. We may assess how well they walk, run, jump, and go up and down stairs.

Occupational Therapy Assessments

look at your child's ability to use small muscles. We may assess their eye-hand coordination (doing puzzles, building with blocks, stacking, cutting, and grasping). We may also look at your child's sensory processing (seeing, touching, feeling, smelling, and hearing).