



Knowing What They Know: Using the Boehm-3 Preschool for Progress Monitoring

Catherine Smyth, Ph.D.

Catherine Smyth

Director of Research

Anchor Center for Blind Children

Validation Study of the Tactile Version



Learning Objectives

- Participants will identify the term "authentic assessment" and the different uses of assessments in education
- Participants will observe a demonstration of the materials in the big picture and tactile version of the Boehm-3 Preschool Assessment from APH
- Participants will discuss the history and various uses of Boehm-3
 Preschool Assessment from APH for young children and children with additional differences with visual impairment





Educational Assessment: How Do We Use It?





Where does the Boehm-3 Preschool fit in?

- Developmental
 Screening (Level of Functioning or Medical Risks)
- 2. Progress
 Monitoring
 (Identification of Skills
 or what do the
 children know?)
- 3. Program Evaluation (Performance of Classrooms or Schools and can be high stakes)







Authentic Assessment

- Observations of performance
- Developmental ageexpected behavior
- Measurement of skills
- Progress over time

The Boehm-3 Preschool Tactile and Big Picture Versions





What does the Boehm-3 Preschool tell us?

- Basic Relational Concepts
- Early Literacy Skills
- Early Numeracy Skills

Following Directions



Who can Administer the Boehm-3 Preschool?

- Teachers of students with visual impairment
- Certified Orientation and Mobility specialists
- Early Childhood and Early Childhood Special Education teachers
- School Psychologists
- Speech Language Pathologists





Item Development with APH

- Worked with experts at APH
- Removed shadows, backgrounds
- Increased contrast, changed colors







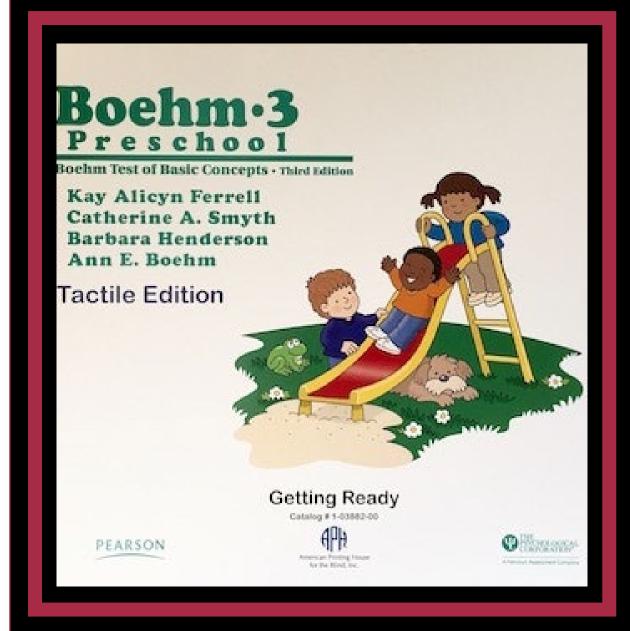


Engaging Children in the Assessment

- Functional and Familiar Items
 Buttons, zippers, spoons,
 beads
- Shapes and Representation Circles, boxes, stars
- Engagement
 Gingerbread cookie, car

Getting Ready

- Introducing items
- Making choices
- Considering version



Collect All the Materials







Tips for Setting the Scene

Teacher viewpoint:

- Sit across from the child
- Use a mirror

Children should be comfortable:

- Stand or sit
- Take movement breaks
- Try another day



Tips for Administering the Test

- HAVE FUN!
- Take time to connect with the child
- Social and emotional experiences improve memory
- Use the script
- Use hand-under-hand guidance when indicated





Filling Out the Record Form





Computing Chronological Age

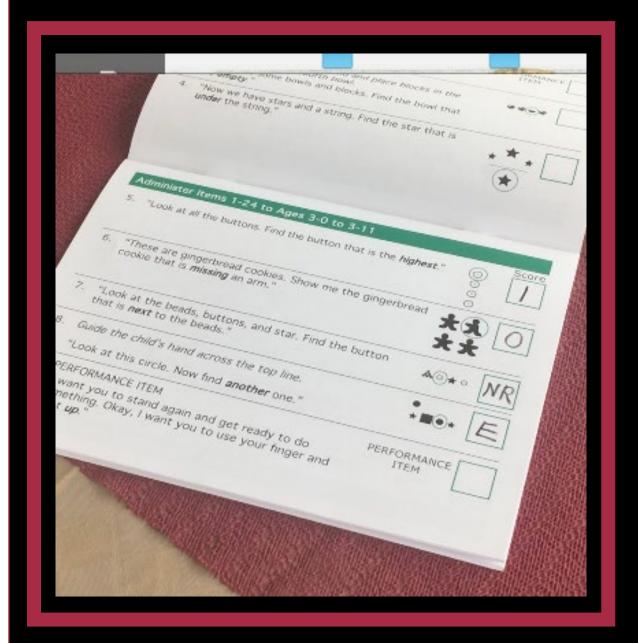
	Year	Month	Date
Date of Test	2015 1/8	13 1/2	35 🏂
Date of Birth	2012	3	8
Chronological Age	3	10	27

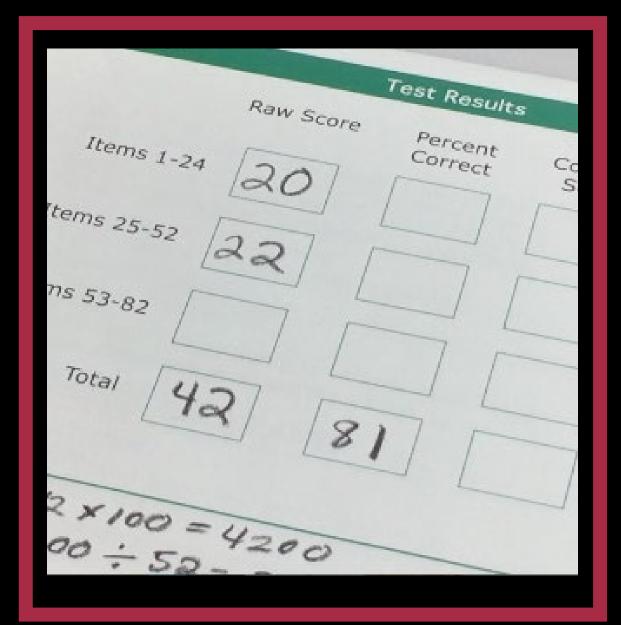
Why does chronological age matter?

- Determines where to begin in the assessment
- Critical information for scoring, developmental expectations, and reporting

Scoring Part 1

- Performance items
- Answer is either right or wrong
- There is no ceiling
- Zero is a score



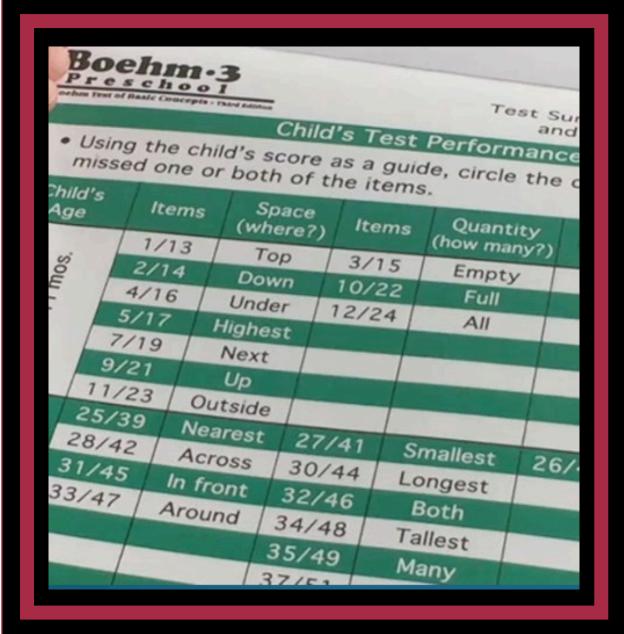


Scoring Part 2

- Each concept has two items
- Count up correct answers in each binder
- Total score (developmental)
- Concept score is optional

Performance Summary

- Categories or patterns
- Numbers that match concept
- Highlight correct answer
- Circle missed answers
- Parent report has similar chart



Sharing Results

- Tactile version is a valid assessment
- Scores- documentation for Learning Media Assessment
- Progress over the course of a year
- Performance Range without a score





Parent Letter - Performance Range

Your child knows most of the basic concepts that other children his or her age know.

Your child knows many of the basic concepts that other children his or her age know, but lacks understanding of some key concepts.

Your child's knowledge of basic concepts is extremely low for his or her age.

Therapist/teacher and parent help is needed for the child's success with language skills at home and in school.





Lessons Learned



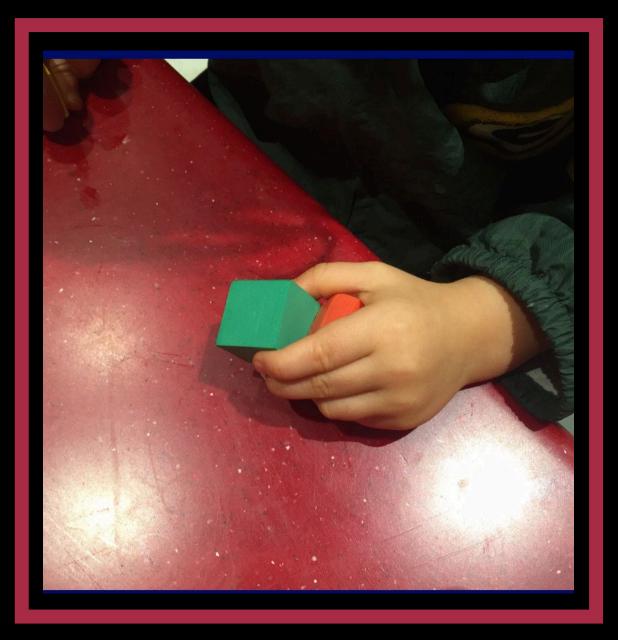


How did we get here?

- Tactile Analog to the Boehm Test of Basic Concepts (Hilda Caton, 1975; Tactile Test of Basic Concepts, APH, 1983)
- Prototype Development: 2009-2012
- Final Preschool Version: Summer 2014
- Validation of the Tactile version: December 2017
- Kindergarten through second grade adaptation







Three Year Olds

- May not be able to take assessment
- Getting Ready Binder
- Centers with stimuli
- Vocabulary
- 6-month progress monitoring
- Parent input

Children with Additional Differences

- Can they make choices? A critical skill
- Positioning is everything
- Monitor for fatigue
- Benefit from exposure to stimuli
- May help to determine sensory preferences
- Always try!





Learning Media Decisions

- Big Picture and tactile versions are different
- Contribute to a body of evidence
- Time and fatigue factors
- Can give over more than one session





A Bridge to Kindergarten

- What do children know?
- Show progress over time
- Skills: concepts, directions, choices, early learning

Resources:

- Boehm-3 Preschool Assessment Kits
- Boehm-3 Validation Study





Contact Information Cathy Smyth, Ph.D.

csmyth@anchorcenter.org

