

ACTIVITY

A

Which Hand?

Grades K–2



Purpose:

Test for dominant hand

Materials:

jar with screw-on lid, ball, yo-yo, scissors, paper, lock and key, hand puppet, spoon

Place the testing materials on a table and ask students, one at a time, to perform each activity. Let students pick up the materials. Do not hand them to students. Ask them to do each task several times so you can discover the dominant hand.

Prepare a chart like the following to record results.

Give two points for the initial attempt to do the activity and one point for each subsequent attempt. The first effort is an especially important indicator of dominant hand. If a student performs a task with equal skill with both hands, write the score in the column labeled A (ambidextrous). The hand with the higher number of points is likely to be the dominant hand. Encourage the student to use that hand for writing.

Student's Name	R	L	A
Screwing and unscrewing a lid			
Bouncing a ball			
Winding a yo-yo			
Cutting paper			
Locking and unlocking a lock			
Using a hand puppet			
Holding a spoon			
Totals			

Variation:

On the playground or in the gym, conduct a series of tests, such as throwing a ball, kicking a ball, and passing a baton. Note signs of left or right dominance.

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