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**CHAPTER 1**

AN OVERVIEW OF ASSESSMENT IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

Suggested Assessment Activities

**Short Essay Questions**

1. Describe the Child Study Movement. How did this movement evolve, and what was its impact on assessment of children?
2. Why is identification of children with disabilities sometimes challenging for classroom educators? Describe three factors that pose a challenge.
3. How did Common Core affect instruction and testing in public schools? Discuss three assessment issues.

**True and False**

1. Standardized testing was first used in the 20th century.
2. Assessment with preschool children is primarily to identify children with disabilities.
3. Early childhood specialists consider the use of standardized tests in Head Start Programs to determine future funding to be inappropriate.
4. Children who are English Language Learners (ELLs) generally do as well on standardized tests as children who speak English.
5. Standardized tests should never be used with preschool children.
6. Funding for early childhood programs during the last century benefited the development of tests for preschool children.

**Multiple Choice**

1. Why is assessment with infants and preschool children used?

A. To determine developmental progress or to diagnose illnesses.

B. To identify children for special education services.

C. To ensure that government agencies have developmental statistics on young children.

D. All of the above

2. What was the result of the child study movement?

A. The initiation of research into child development.

B. The establishment of developmental norms.

C. A call for educational reform.

D. B & C

E. All of the above

3. The first standardized tests were

A. Published by large commercial companies

B. Started as informal assessments

C. Designed to measure IQ

D. All of the above

4. Legislation to address the needs of children with disabilities was

A. First required for infants and toddlers

B. Developed with one omnibus law

C. Gradually expanded with ongoing legislation

D. None of the above

5. Concerns about assessing English Language Learners (ELLs) include all but which of the following

A. Lower reading and language fluency scores may impact assessment results

B. Disproportionate numbers of ELLs are being placed in special education

C. ELLs should always be assessed and placed in special education classes when they first enter American schools

D. The screening results for ELLs may not accurately reflect their development due to cultural and language differences

**Assignment Assessment**

1. There are many challenges for teachers of children who are learning English. A major issue is identification of ELLs children for special education services. Find at least three current newspaper, Internet, and journal articles that discuss this topic. Discuss difficulties in identifying ELLs children for special services as well as misidentification issues.