

**‘Specialization in ICTs and Special Education: Psychopedagogy of Integration’
Postgraduate Program
DEMOCRITUS UNIVERSITY OF THRACE Department of Greek Philology
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NCSR DEMOKRITOS Informatics and Telecommunications Institute**

**DEVELOPMENTAL COORDINATION DISORDER IN EARLY SCHOOL
AGED CHILDREN:
GENDER EFFECT – SCREENING VIA THE DEMOST - PRE BATTERY**

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THESIS

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to ascertain the prevalence of DCD in Greek primary school children aged 6-7 years and, furthermore, to examine the effect of gender in the performance of early school aged children in the 9 tasks of the assessment tool "DEMOST – PRE". The sample consisted of 91 children (n=91), 45 boys and 46 girls in Grade A, with a mean age of 86 months, who were students in public schools in the Prefecture of Attica. The assessment tool that was used during the measurements was the DEMOST – PRE assessment battery and the measurements took place within their school's classroom for 2 consecutive weeks. From the statistical analysis of the results, it was observed that the gender effect is not statistically significant in the performance of the sample's children except for the 6th test "Targeting with one hand". In conclusion, regarding the identification of motor impairment on the sample's children, it appeared that a fair amount of children face motor clumsiness and, moreover, the DEMOST – PRE assessment battery estimates children's motor proficiency regardless of gender.

KEY WORDS: Motor development, motor coordination, movement assessment instrument, movement clumsiness, gender effect.

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