

Survey: Pediatric Physical Therapists' Perspectives on Crawling

For each of the following items, please assess the extent to which you agree or disagree with the statement.	
Beliefs About Mobility and Crawling	<p>Crawling on hands and knees is important for development. Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree</p> <p>Independent mobility is important for development. Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree</p> <p>Crawling on hands and knees is a necessary precursor to walking. Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree</p> <p>If a child skips crawling or crawls in a manner different from hands and knees crawling, this has lasting effects on their development. Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree</p>
Clinical Approaches	<p>When working with a child who uses a method of floor mobility other than hands and knees crawling (e.g., scooting on their bottom), I typically discourage the alternative method. Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree</p> <p>When working with a child who uses a method of floor mobility other than hands and knees crawling (e.g., scooting on their bottom), I typically try to train hands and knees crawling. Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree</p> <p>When working with a child who is walking but skipped crawling, I typically try to train hands and knees crawling. Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree</p>
Miscellaneous (not included in current report)	<p>If a child skips hands and knees crawling, this is most likely a sign of atypical development.* Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree</p> <p>Research supports the importance of hands and knees crawling.* Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree</p> <p>Most pediatric physical therapists are in agreement about the importance of hands and knees crawling.* Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree</p>

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Specific Effects

Hands and knees crawling experience CONTRIBUTES to development of:

Upper extremity and shoulder girdle strength

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Trunk strength

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Bilateral coordination

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Fine motor skills

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Visual perception

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Somatosensory and/or vestibular systems

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Cognitive skills

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Integration of reflexes

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Hands and knees crawling experience is NECESSARY for development of:

Upper extremity and shoulder girdle strength

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Trunk strength

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Bilateral coordination

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Fine motor skills

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Visual perception

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Somatosensory and/or vestibular systems

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Cognitive skills

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

Integration of reflexes

Strongly agree / Agree / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree / Strongly disagree

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CDC	<p>In early 2022, the CDC published new milestone checklists for developmental surveillance (Learn the Signs, Act Early program). One of the updates was the removal of crawling from the Movement/Physical Development milestones. How do you feel about this change?</p> <p>Strongly agree with the removal of crawling / Agree with the removal of crawling / Neither agree nor disagree / Disagree with the removal of crawling / Strongly disagree with the removal of crawling</p>
Sources of Beliefs	<p>My opinion on the importance (or unimportance) of crawling is informed by (select all that apply):</p> <p>Basic science principles (e.g. anatomy, biomechanics, neuroscience) <i>If selected, participant also asked follow-up:</i> (Optional) Please describe basic science principles informing your opinion.</p> <p>Peer reviewed research <i>If selected, participant also asked follow-up:</i> (Optional) Please describe peer reviewed research informing your opinion. You may include citations/titles or descriptions of relevant articles.</p> <p>Expert opinion <i>If selected, participant also asked follow-up:</i> (Optional) Which experts informed your opinion (e.g. instructor in PT school, continuing education course, mentor, book, etc.)?</p> <p>Websites and other public media <i>If selected, participant also asked follow-up:</i> (Optional) Which websites or media sources informed your opinion?</p> <p>My own clinical experience <i>If selected, participant also asked follow-up:</i> (Optional) Please describe your clinical experiences that informed your opinion.</p>
Free text (not included in current report)	<p>What information or education do you provide to parents about crawling?* (free text response)</p> <p>What do you teach physical therapy students about crawling?* (free text response)</p> <p>Please provide any other comments you have about crawling or any of the questions on this survey.* (free text response)</p>

Labels along the left margin indicate which items correspond with which manuscript sections. These labels were not presented to survey participants.

** Indicates items not analyzed for the current report*