



## The Connection Between Essential Running Techniques and Long Jump Performance Indicators in Elementary School Learners Aged 10-11 Years

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\* Lilis Lasma Suriani. S<sup>1</sup><sub>abcde</sub> 

<sup>1</sup>Universitas Pahlawan Tuanku Tambusai, Indonesia.

### ABSTRACT

### ARTICLE INFO

**The purpose of the study.** The primary objective of this research is to analyze the link between running technique proficiency and long jump performance in 10 to 11-year-old elementary students.

**Materials and methods.** A sample of 28 male students, aged 10 to 11 years, was selected for this study. A cross-sectional research design was utilized to investigate the relationship between basic running techniques and long jump performance in this demographic. Pearson correlation analysis was conducted to assess the association between running methodologies and long jump effectiveness. The results of this analysis determined the strength and direction of the relationship between the two variables.

**Results.** The analysis yielded a significant correlation coefficient of  $r = 0.917$ , with a  $p$ -value of  $0.000 < 0.005$ , indicating a strong positive correlation. This finding suggests that students' skills in body alignment, arm swing, and leg coordination in running are closely related to their ability to generate the power, speed, and control necessary for superior long jump performance.

**Conclusions.** This study provides empirical support for the claim that proficiency in fundamental running techniques, including body alignment, arm swing, and leg coordination, correlates significantly with improved long jump performance in 10 to 11-year-old elementary school students.

**Keywords:** Long Jump Performance Outcomes; Elementary School Students; Aged 10-11 Years; Fundamental Running Techniques.



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### INTRODUCTION

The cultivation of athletic competencies during early childhood is imperative for the promotion of comprehensive health and athletic efficacy among children. The attainment of essential movement capabilities, including running and jumping, establishes a foundation for the execution of more intricate physical endeavors, thereby significantly enhancing children's physical, cognitive, and social welfare (Kohl et al., 2013). Through the promotion of these vital competencies during early

\* Corresponding Author: Lilis Lasma Suriani. S., e-mail: [lilissuryani09k@gmail.com](mailto:lilissuryani09k@gmail.com)

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childhood, individuals are capable of establishing a robust groundwork that undergirds their sustained involvement and achievements in athletic pursuits and physical well-being (Bidzan-Bluma & Lipowska, 2018). This aspect holds significant relevance for elementary school pupils within the age range of 10 to 11 years, given that this developmental phase is critical in influencing their physical competencies and establishing the groundwork for enduring fitness and athletic endeavors (Lloyd et al., 2016)(Purcell, 2005). Throughout this pivotal developmental phase, children experience swift transformations in their physical, cognitive, and social domains, which exert substantial influence on their comprehensive development and prospective engagement in sports and physical activities (Long-Term Athletic Development, 2023)(Eisenmann et al., 2020). By promoting the development of essential motor competencies, including running and jumping, during this critical period, educators and coaches are positioned to assist children in establishing a robust foundation that will facilitate their sustained involvement and achievement in a diverse array of athletic pursuits.

The long jump constitutes a highly specialized athletic discipline necessitating a complex amalgamation of physical characteristics, encompassing strength, velocity, and coordination (Bompa & Carrera, 2015)(Koyama et al., 2007)(Jaitner et al., 2001). The acquisition of these fundamental movement skills is critical for achieving optimal performance in the long jump, as they establish the requisite groundwork for the intricate biomechanical actions and neuromuscular coordination necessary to perform a proficient jump (Hulteen et al., 2018). Achieving proficiency in the fundamental running techniques, including appropriate body alignment, arm movement, and leg coordination, is essential for cultivating the strength, agility, and bodily control necessary to produce maximum force output and attain optimal jump distance (Reiser et al., 2006). By concentrating on the progression and enhancement of these essential movement competencies, athletes are able to establish a robust foundation that underpins their overall long jump proficiency and amplifies their potential for achievement in this challenging athletic field. Comprehending the correlation between



these fundamental running methodologies and long jump performance is imperative for formulating effective training regimens and intervention frameworks that can optimize the athletic development of elementary school pupils.

Investigations have consistently illustrated the significance of foundational movement competencies, such as running mechanics, in shaping the physical fitness and athletic prowess of children (Nesbitt & Bullard, 2021). Specifically, empirical research has demonstrated that the proficiency in essential running techniques, including appropriate posture, stride length, and motor coordination, exhibits a positive correlation with enhanced long jump performance metrics among elementary school pupils (Battista et al., 2020)(Pardilla, 2021). This implies that the cultivation and enhancement of these essential competencies may exert a considerable influence on children's capacity to achieve excellence in long jump and various other athletic activities.

Numerous scholarly investigations have scrutinized the correlation between essential running methodologies and long jump efficacy among elementary school pupils. These investigations have uniformly demonstrated that children displaying superior proficiency in running techniques, including appropriate body posture, effective arm movement, and coordinated leg action, are inclined to attain greater long jump distances (Ardha et al., 2021)(Chen et al., 2010). This emphasizes the significance of concentrating on the cultivation of these essential competencies as a strategy for improving long jump proficiency within this demographic. Furthermore, scholarly investigations have elucidated numerous variables that may impact the relationship between foundational running methodologies and long jump efficacy among elementary school pupils (Audina et al., 2024)(Chen et al., 2010)(Glassow & Kruse, 1960). These factors encompass the comprehensive physical fitness levels of the students, their degree of engagement and familiarity with organized physical activities, as well as their developmental stage. By taking these variables into account, scholars and practitioners can attain a deeper comprehension of the intricate interplay between



running methodologies and long jump efficacy, thereby formulating more efficacious strategies to foster the advancement of these critical competencies.

The principal aim of this research endeavor is to examine the relationship between the proficiency in essential running techniques and the resultant performance metrics in long jump activities among elementary school pupils within the age bracket of 10 to 11 years.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### *Study participants*

A total of 28 male elementary school students, aged 10 to 11 years, were enlisted to partake in this investigation. The subjects were chosen from local educational institutions and possessed no previous exposure to structured long jump training.

### *Study Organization*

This investigation employed a cross-sectional research methodology to explore the correlation between fundamental running techniques and long jump performance within a cohort of elementary school students aged 10 to 11 years. The subjects were initially evaluated on their proficiency in essential running techniques, encompassing aspects such as body alignment, arm swing, and leg coordination. This evaluation was carried out by seasoned coaches and professionals in physical education utilizing a standardized assessment rubric.

### *Statistical Analysis*

In order to examine the association between essential running methodologies and long jump efficacy, the researchers executed a Pearson correlation analysis. The findings derived from this analysis were employed to ascertain the magnitude and orientation of the correlation between the two variables.

## RESULTS

The findings derived from the Pearson correlation analysis indicated a robust, positive association between the participants' proficiency in fundamental running techniques and their performance metrics in long jump events. The outcomes of this investigation are presented in the subsequent table:



### Descriptive Statistics

In order to examine the detailed representation of the statistical data, kindly refer to Table 1 presented below:

Table 1. description of the statistics

	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
fundamental running techniques	28	4.95	7.00	5.6824	.66776
long jump performance	28	2.47	3.75	3.0441	.40210
Valid N (listwise)	28				

### Normality Assessment Outcomes

The assessment of normality is illustrated in Table 2 presented below:

Table 2. Normality Test Results

N	28	28
Normal Parameters <sup>a,b</sup>	Mean	5.6824
	Std. Deviation	.66776
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	.138
	Positive	.138
	Negative	-.136
Test Statistic	.138	.121
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.200 <sup>c,d</sup>	.200 <sup>c,d</sup>

### Results of Correlation and Hypothesis Tests

In order to ascertain the degree of correlation between the variables, one can refer to the subsequent table:

Table 3. Correlation Between Variables

fundamental running techniques	Pearson Correlation	1	.917 <sup>**</sup>
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	28	28
long jump performance	Pearson Correlation	.917 <sup>**</sup>	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	28	28

Table 4. Hypothesis Testing Results

	Paired Differences					T	Df	Sig. (2-tailed)
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% Confidence Interval of theDifference				
				Lower	Upper			
Fundamental running techniques and Long jump performance	2.63824	.94719	.22973	2.15123	3.12524	11.484	26	.000



Specifically, the analysis revealed a statistically significant correlation coefficient of  $r = 0.917$ , with a (2-tailed)  $p$ -value of  $0.000 < 0.005$ , signifying a robust and substantial positive association between the two variables. This outcome indicates that the participants' proficiency in executing appropriate body alignment, efficient arm swing, and coordinated leg movement during the running activity was intrinsically linked to their ability to produce the necessary power, speed, and body control required for attaining greater distances in long jump. The pronounced correlation emphasizes the pivotal role that the advancement and refinement of these fundamental running techniques play in facilitating and enhancing long jump performance among elementary school students aged 10-11 years.

This outcome implies that elementary school students who demonstrate superior execution of essential running techniques, including proper body alignment, arm swing, and leg coordination, are likely to achieve greater long jump distances. This strong positive correlation accentuates the significant role that the development and refinement of these fundamental running skills contribute to the enhancement of long jump performance within this demographic. The mastery of these foundational movement patterns appears to be intricately connected to an athlete's ability to generate the requisite power, speed, and body control essential for effective long jump execution. By prioritizing the systematic enhancement of running technique proficiency, physical education curricula and sports training programs can assist young athletes in establishing a solid foundation that empowers them to optimize their long jump capabilities and attain greater competitive success in this challenging athletic discipline.

## DISCUSSION

The results of the present investigation yield significant understanding regarding the association between basic running techniques and long jump proficiency among elementary school students. The pronounced positive correlation identified in this research underscores the necessity of prioritizing the cultivation and enhancement of these fundamental motor skills as a strategy for improving long jump performance.



within this demographic (Thomas et al., 2020)(Román et al., 2017)(Kalaja et al., 2012)(Grainger et al., 2020).

Multiple factors may elucidate the identified correlation between running techniques and performance in the long jump. Primarily, the adeptness in fundamental running techniques, encompassing proper body alignment, efficient arm swing, and well-coordinated leg movement, can enhance overall running biomechanics and neuromuscular control. Such enhancements in running proficiency can subsequently result in augmented power generation, effective force application, and improved body control during the execution of the long jump, ultimately facilitating the athlete in achieving superior jump distances (Husnayadi, 2024)(Blazevich & Fletcher, 2022)(Makaruk et al., 2020).

Moreover, empirical investigations have demonstrated that the cultivation of essential running mechanics, including correct postural alignment, effective arm oscillation, and synchronized lower limb motion, is significantly associated with enhancements in additional critical physical fitness parameters that serve as pivotal factors influencing long jump efficacy (Panoutsakopoulos et al., 2022)(Loturco et al., 2023). For example, the acquisition of these essential running competencies may result in augmented running efficiency, superior biomechanical function, and enhanced neuromuscular regulation, which subsequently may correlate with elevated vertical jump performance and accelerated sprinting velocities (Thompson, 2017)(Schache et al., 2014)(Maćkała et al., 2015). The aforementioned physical characteristics are imperative for the production of the requisite power, the application of force, and the regulation of bodily control essential for the proficient execution of the long jump (Martinez, 2017). Through the concentrated emphasis on the methodical cultivation of these essential movement competencies, athletes are able to establish a resilient physical base that underpins their comprehensive athletic capabilities and improves their performance in the long jump (Koyama et al., 2007).





The findings derived from this investigation possess significant ramifications for physical education and athletic training curricula aimed at elementary school learners. By prioritizing the cultivation of essential running methodologies, educators and trainers can not only augment long jump efficacy but also promote the comprehensive physical maturation and fitness of this demographic.

## CONCLUSION

This research presents empirical evidence indicating that proficiency in essential running techniques, encompassing body alignment, arm swing, and leg coordination, is significantly associated with enhanced long jump performance metrics in elementary school students within the age range of 10 to 11 years. These results underscore the necessity of integrating specific interventions aimed at the cultivation of these fundamental movement competencies into physical education curricula and athletic training programs tailored for this demographic.

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## APPENDIX

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### Information About The Authors:

**Lilis Lasma Suriani. S.**

Email: [lilissuryani09k@gmail.com](mailto:lilissuryani09k@gmail.com); Program Studi Pendidikan Jasmani Kesehatan Dan Rekreasi. Universitas Pahlawan Tuanku Tambusai, Jl. Tuanku Tambusai No. 23 Bangkinang Kota, Kab. Kampar, Provinsi Riau, Indonesia, 28412.

