

Assessment of Playfulness among the Children Aged 10-14 YearsMuhsin Hazar¹, Mehtap Yıldız², Hacer Özge Baydar³ and Aydın Karaçam⁴^{1,3}*Gazi University, School of Physical Education and Sports, Gazi Mahallesi,
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³<ozgebaydar@gazi.edu.tr>, ⁴<aydinkaracam@gmail.com>**KEYWORDS** Children. Level of Playfulness. Physical Activity. Gender. Social Environment

ABSTRACT The aim of the current study was to investigate the tendency to play games, including physical activities as well as to examine the place of residence and gender variables in terms of the level of playfulness among the secondary school children aged 10-14 years. A total of 894 students who studied at the secondary schools in Cankaya County (230 students), Kecioren County (358 students) and Yenimahalle County (358 students) were included in the study in order to determine the level of playfulness among the secondary school students during the 2013-2014 academic year. In terms of playfulness, the highest score was obtained in "social adaptation", whereas the lowest score was obtained in "game passion". Generally speaking, the "level of playfulness" was at a "good" level. In terms of the gender variable, there were significant differences among the groups in their "levels of playfulness" and the dimensions of "game passion", "social adaptation", "wish to play games", "wish to win" and "taking risk".