

## HOME LITERACY INVENTORY

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

*Complete the following items with your child's current interests and abilities in mind. Not all items will apply to your child or your home. Children who are older (4-6 years old) may have more interests and skills than younger children (2-3 years old). Families too, may differ in their interests and practices with their children. Check only those items that apply to you and your child.*

- (1) What is your child's favorite:  
 Storybook? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Movie/Video? \_\_\_\_\_  
 TV Show? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nursery rhyme/Finger song? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Writing/Drawing utensil? \_\_\_\_\_

### NON-PRINT ACTIVITIES

- (2) How does your child watch T.V./videos at home?  
**(Check the one that is most common):**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ alone  
 \_\_\_\_\_ with other children/adults in the room  
 \_\_\_\_\_ with an adult commenting/explaining the program
- (3) Which of the following non-print activities does your child do with someone at home at least weekly? **(Check all that apply):**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ sings children's songs  
 \_\_\_\_\_ does "finger play" songs or games (e.g., Itsy Bitsy Spider, Wheels on the Bus)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ recites nursery rhymes, poems or jingles  
 \_\_\_\_\_ tells made-up stories without books  
 \_\_\_\_\_ sings the ABC's  
 \_\_\_\_\_ listens to stories on audio tapes  
 \_\_\_\_\_ plays rhyming games (e.g., dog/bog, cat/rat, boy/toy, open/rope)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ makes up nonsense words or pretends to talk in another language  
 \_\_\_\_\_ has fun talking very fast or very slow  
 \_\_\_\_\_ tells about events/activities they did without you  
 \_\_\_\_\_ retells stories heard or seen in videos, movies, TV or books  
 \_\_\_\_\_ finds the first letter of their name in logos/commercials  
 \_\_\_\_\_ spells their name or familiar words out loud

### READING ACTIVITIES

- (4) **How frequently** do you or other family members read stories/books aloud to your child?  
**(Check one):**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ less than once a week  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 1-2 times each week  
 \_\_\_\_\_ daily
- (5) Where is your child most often positioned for shared book reading with you at home?  
**(Choose the two most typical positions)**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ in their special chair  
 \_\_\_\_\_ at a table  
 \_\_\_\_\_ on an adult's lap  
 \_\_\_\_\_ beside an adult on sofa, large chair or floor  
 \_\_\_\_\_ lying in bed  
 \_\_\_\_\_ other: \_\_\_\_\_
- (6) **How frequently** does your child "read" or look at books by him/herself at home? **(Check one):**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ never  
 \_\_\_\_\_ at least 1-2 times each week  
 \_\_\_\_\_ less than once a week  
 \_\_\_\_\_ daily
- (7) When you or someone else at home reads a book with your child, **what do you usually do?**  
**(Check all that apply):**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ read the title page/cover  
 \_\_\_\_\_ tell the story in your own words  
 \_\_\_\_\_ read the words in the book  
 \_\_\_\_\_ point to page numbers and name them  
 \_\_\_\_\_ point to the pictures and label them  
 \_\_\_\_\_ point to the words in the book  
 \_\_\_\_\_ point to letters and name them  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ask your child to "turn the page"  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ask your child to label the pictures (e.g., What's this?)

- \_\_\_\_\_ ask your child to point to the pictures (e.g., Where is the \_\_\_\_\_?, Show me the \_\_\_\_\_.)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ask your child to point to a word (e.g., Can you find the word *Zoo*?)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ask your child to read a word (e.g., What does this say?)  
 \_\_\_\_\_ read a word incorrectly and wait for child to correct you  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ask your child what happened in the story  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ask your child what will happen next in the story  
 \_\_\_\_\_ ask your child to explain why something happened  
 \_\_\_\_\_ relate events and characters in the story to child's own life
- (8) How does **your child participate** during shared reading activities at home? **(Check all that apply):**  
 \_\_\_\_\_ chooses books to read alone or to be read aloud  
 \_\_\_\_\_ listens quietly as someone else reads aloud  
 \_\_\_\_\_ reads the title/cover  
 \_\_\_\_\_ turns pages  
 \_\_\_\_\_ reads the page numbers  
 \_\_\_\_\_ finds words with the same letters as their own name  
 \_\_\_\_\_ says "the end" when the story is finished  
 \_\_\_\_\_ pretends to read the book  
 \_\_\_\_\_ points to pictures  
 \_\_\_\_\_ labels pictures of objects and people  
 \_\_\_\_\_ labels the action in pictures  
 \_\_\_\_\_ asks you questions or makes comments about the story during reading  
 \_\_\_\_\_ answers your questions during or after reading  
 \_\_\_\_\_ asks you "What does this say?"  
 \_\_\_\_\_ points to and reads familiar words  
 \_\_\_\_\_ retells the story while turning the pages  
 \_\_\_\_\_ tries to guess what will happen next  
 \_\_\_\_\_ other: \_\_\_\_\_

- (9) Which of the following activities does your child do **at least once a month?** (Check all that apply):

visits the library/bookmobile  
 goes to a bookstore  
 selects videos for rental  
 dials a familiar number on the telephone  
 selects a favorite packaged food at the grocery or convenient store

- (10) What printed material does your child **see or use in the home at least weekly?** (Check all that apply):

**Sees adults use weekly**

**Child "looks at" with interest weekly**

<input type="checkbox"/>	magazines	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	novels/other adult books	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	dictionary/encyclopedia	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	catalogues	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	advertisement flyers	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	phone book	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	letters	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	T.V./movie guide	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	cookbooks/instruction manuals	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	photographs of family/friends	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	checkbook/budget book/bills	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	comic books	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	picture books for children	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	story books for children	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	notes (refrigerator notes)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	birthday cards (on a birthday)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	food packages/logos	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	clocks/watches	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	logos on clothes	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	own name on paper or package	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### WRITING ACTIVITIES

- (11) How often does your child do some writing, drawing, or "pretend writing" at home? (Check one):

less than once a week  
 at least once a week  
 daily

- (12) Which of the following writing/drawing materials does your child see or use at home at least weekly? (Check all that apply):

**Sees adults use weekly**

**Child uses weekly**

<input type="checkbox"/>	pencil/pen & paper	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	crayons/markers	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	paintbrushes, paints	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	computer	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	typewriter	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	calculator	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	writing/drawing toys	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	other writing tools	<input type="checkbox"/>

- (13) When you or someone else at home draws or writes with your child at home, **what do you usually do?** (Check all that apply):

position a writing/drawing utensil in the child's hand  
 provide hand-over-hand assistance  
 comment on what the child is drawing/writing  
 sit silently and watch while the child draws/writes  
 leave them alone while they draw/write  
 encourage the child to "draw/write more"  
 tell the child what to draw/write or which colors to use  
 encourage child to copy what you draw/write  
 write the child's name on the paper  
 encourage child to write their own name  
 encourage the child to "pretend" to write  
 draw/write a model for the child to copy  
 answer the child's questions  
 write words the child dictates to you  
 spell words aloud for the child to write  
 make the letter sounds for the child to guess and write

- (14) When your child is writing or drawing at home, **what do they typically do?** (Check all that apply):

chooses writing/drawing activities  
 draws pictures on paper  
 draws pictures on a computer  
 plays with writing and drawing toys (Etch-a-Sketch, Magna-Doodle, etc.)  
 practices writing/typing letters in alphabet copies letters or words  
 writes his/her name  
 pretends to write by scribbling  
 writes words independently  
 types words independently using a computer or typewriter  
 dictates words or sentences for others to write down  
 makes posters or signs for special events

#### CHILD'S CURRENT ABILITIES

- (15) Which one of the following statements **best** describes your child's current reading skills? (Check one):

does not read at all  
 pretends to read  
 recognizes letters of the alphabet  
 recognizes 5 or more logos (e.g., *K-Mart*, *McDonald's*, *Coke/Pepsi*, *Dairy Queen*)  
 reads 5 or more sight words (e.g., *Stop*, *Exit*)  
 reads 10 or more words in books  
 reads 25-50 words  
 reads sentences in picture books  
 reads simple stories without pictures

- (16) Which one of the following statements **best** describes your child's current writing skills? (Check one):

does not write/draw at all  
 scribbles/colors unrecognizable pictures  
 colors in coloring books  
 draws pictures of recognizable objects and characters  
 writes some or all letters in the alphabet  
 writes or copies their name  
 writes/copies simple, familiar words  
 writes simple notes, sentences  
 writes simple stories or answers to questions