

Emerging Literacy Behaviours Checklist



Check the box for the statement that best describes the student's current behaviours related to literacy. This checklist can be used several times throughout the year to monitor progress, inform instruction and document growth. Use the Observation Notes section to record the learning context, and your observations and reflections, including use of scaffolds, assistive technologies or personal communication devices that support this student's access to literacy.

- A. Interactions with Books
- B. Engagement in the Act of Reading
- C. Interactions During Literacy Activities
- D. Engagement in Storytelling
- E. Interactions with Symbols/Print
- F. Drawing/Writing and Representing
- G. Alphabet Knowledge
- H. Phonological Awareness

Student Name _____

Grade/Program _____

School Year _____

Notes about strategies and tools this student requires for successful literacy experiences

A. Interactions with Books

	Date	Date	Date
Explores books:			
• tactually	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• visually	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Browses pages of books:			
• independently	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• with another person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Holds book:			
• with support from equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• with support from a person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• independently	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Independently views book:			
• starts at front of book	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• turns book right side up	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Turns pages:			
• with prompting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• independently	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• with purpose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• at appropriate time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recognizes book by its cover:			
• visually	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• tactually	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Observation Notes

B. Engagement in the Act of Reading

	Date	Date	Date
Indicates awareness of being read to:			
• attends to activity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• attends to reader	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• knows when activity begins and ends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demonstrates attention to reader and reading experience (also known as joint attention)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demonstrates interest in reading by doing one or more of the following:			
• eye gazes to text, picture or page	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• points to text, pictures or page	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• uses language to label specific picture or words	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• comments on print or graphic elements of story	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• acts out parts of story	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participates in reading experience by reading along (e.g., tracking text, vocalizing words, reading in head, following with braille)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approximates reading to another person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communicates a choice of a story, song or rhyme through one or more of the following ways:			
• vocalization or spoken word	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• gesture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• picture/symbol	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reading from memory on own:			
• using rote memory alone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
or			
• by paying attention to the printed word	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Observation Notes

D. Engagement in Storytelling

	Date	Date	Date
Imitates story:			
• actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• sounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• words	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• manipulation of related objects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spontaneously uses elements from familiar stories such as:			
• actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• sounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• words	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• objects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• pictures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Uses storybook language from familiar stories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Answers questions related to familiar stories through one or more means such as:			
• eye gaze	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• vocalizing or speaking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• personal communication device	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• pictures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• symbols	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• gestures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Predicts what might happen in unfamiliar stories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tells an original simple story through one or more of the following ways:			
• vocalizing or speaking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• gestures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• pictures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• symbols	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• personal communication device	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Observation Notes

H. Phonological Awareness

	Date	Date	Date
Participates in word play such as finger plays	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Follows rhythmic patterns in:			
• poems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• music	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• stories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recognizes basic sounds of some letters (indicate number or specific letters)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	—	—	—
Repeats rhythmic patterns in:			
• poems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• music	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
• stories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Demonstrates awareness that different words begin with the same sound	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Identifies initial letter sounds of at least 20 letters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Observation Notes

References

This Emerging Literacy Behaviours Checklist is adapted from:

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