



Observation Checklists: Monitoring Development

Syracuse City School District, New York

Topic: Preschool Language and Literacy

Practice: Use Interactive and Dialogic Reading

These *Observation Checklists* were adapted by Syracuse to help preschool teachers monitor children's progress in mastering print awareness and comprehension skills within six thematic units. The Syracuse teachers use this data to differentiate instruction for individual children. You can use or adapt these checklists to help you plan interactive reading and track oral language learning across your curriculum, beginning with asking children to identify a book's title, author, and illustrator, and moving on to having them retell the sequence of story events. Notice how the comprehension and oral language skills vary depending on the focus or theme of each of the six units.



Reading Street
Unit 1 OBSERVATION CHECKLIST
All Together Now

					Key:	I = Introducing	
Date of Unit	//	_to	/	/	-	D = Developing	
						M = Mastered	

Center:	Cognitive Skills/Comprehension Tells how Identifies Recalls Identifies Creates Uses patterns Identifies Uses																	
Teacher:	Tells l pictur alike a differe	es are and	Title Author		Identifies and describes characters		Recalls events in story using the pictures		Identifies settings in a text		Creates simple representa- tions of home, school or community		to predict what		Identifies the main idea		Uses picture source inform	e of
Student:	Pre	Pre Post Pre Post				Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	comm throug drawin	gh	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
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Reading Street
Unit 1 OBSERVATION CHECKLIST
All Together Now

Date of Unit	/_	_/	_ to _	/	_/	_
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Key: I = Introducing D = Developing M = Mastered

Center:		Oral Language Skills Greets other Takes turns Follows Talks about Understands Dramatizes a Creates Describes Understands																			
Teacher:		en and	and listening and speaking			and listening and di			directions		about and ways a helper	Unders and ans questio about the Talk w Me cha	swers ons he ith	Drama story	tizes a	Create voice chara	s for	activities in photo- graphs			ses most
Student:	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post			
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Reading Street
Unit 2 **OBSERVATION CHECKLIST**Who Lives Here?

Date of Unit//	_to//
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Key: I = Introducing
D = Developing
M = Mastered

Cognitive Skills/Comprehension Center: Identifies Identifies Summarizes Recalls Identifies Describes Compares Identifies Makes Notices meaning of words by predictions story and the title and information main idea end story Teacher: pictures their and asks settings and contrasts title page in the text events punctuation characters traits and meanings questions and recognizes objects based on preview of question marks text Student: Pre Post 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.



Reading Street Unit 2 **OBSERVATION CHECKLIST** *Who Lives Here?*

Date of Unit	/ /	to	/ /	/

Key: I = Introducing
D = Developing
M = Mastered

Center:		Oral Language Skills Fakes turns Adjusts Understands Under- Sings the																		
	listen and	listening		ne	import warnir	ant ng	stand answ	r- s and ers	Sings words unit s	the s of				te voca					Unde stand uses	s and most
Teacher Student:			appro priate	ly	sounds		questions about the Talk With Me Charts				Animals and where they sleep		Similarities Non- and differ- mess ences in neighbor- hoods and transporta-			verbal ages	When thing in sp	s are	of the Amaz Word	zing
Student.		n .		D (n	n (D (-	.		n .	ti	on	n	n (n	n .		ъ.
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Key: I = Introducing

Reading Street Unit 3 **OBSERVATION CHECKLIST** Watch Me Change

				D = Developing
Date of Unit	/1	to/_	_/	M = Mastered

	Cognitive Skills/Comprehension Describes Identifies Recognizes Compares Creates simple Generates Summarizes Recalls Identifies																		
story	gs and	autho	or, rator	and co	ords on a lege al		Recognizes informational texts are about real things		Compares and contrasts text to own life		Creates simple representations of home, school and community		Generates questions about text		Summarizes information in the text			Identifies main idea	
Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
	story settin chara	story settings and characters	story author settings and characters and ti	story author, illustrator and title	story settings and characters and title and characters and title and title and characters	story settings and characters author, illustrator and title and title and counts words on a page	story settings and characters and title and counts words on a page about things	Describes story settings and characters Identifies author, illustrator and title Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts informational texts are about real things	Describes story author, settings and characters Identifies and counts words on a characters and title Identifies and counts words on a page Informational texts are about real things Informational texts are about real things	Describes story author, settings and characters Identifies and counts or and title Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts informational texts are about real text to own things Identifies and counts informational texts are about real text to own life	Describes story author, settings and characters Identifies and counts or and title Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts informational texts are about real text to own life communications. In this information information is about real text to own life communications.	Describes story settings and characters Identifies and counts words on a characters Identifies and counts words on a page Recognizes informational texts are about real things Compares and contrasts text to own life community Recognizes informational texts are about real text to own life community	Describes story settings and characters Identifies and title Recognizes informational texts are about real things Creates simple representations of home, about text to own things community	Describes story author, settings and characters Identifies and title Recognizes informational characters Identifies and counts words on a page Recognizes informational texts are about real things Compares and contrasts text to own life Community Generates questions about text are about real things Community	Describes story settings and characters Identifies and counts words on a characters Identifies and title Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and compares compares and compares and compares and compares and compares and compares and compares contrasts of home, school and community In the compared texts are about real things Identifies and counts informational texts are about real things Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts informational texts are about real text to own If the compares and counts informational texts are about real things Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts wo	Describes story settings and characters Identifies and counts words on a characters Identifies and characters Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and compares and compares and compares and compares and compares and compares representations of home, school and community Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and	Describes story author, settings and characters Identifies and title Page Identifies and counts texts are about real things Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts texts are about real things Identifies and counts informational texts are about real text to own life Identifies and counts of home, school and community Identifies and counts information in the text Identifies and counts of home, school and community Identifies and counts information in the text Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts information in the text Identifies and counts information and counts information in the text Identifies and counts information and counts information and counts information and counts in the text Identifies and counts information and counts information and counts information and counts in the text Identifies and counts information and counts in the text Identifies and counts information and counts in the text Identifies and counts information	Describes story settings and characters Identifies and title Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and title Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and compares contrasts text to own life Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts and counts and counts and counts and counts and counts are also are also and counts and counts are also are al	Describes story settings and characters Identifies and title Identifies and counts texts are about real things Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts texts are about real things Identifies and community Identifies and compares creates simple representations of home, school and community Identifies and counts information and texts are about real text to own life community Identifies and counts information and community Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts information and contrasts text to own life Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts information and community Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts information and contrasts text to own life Identifies and counts words on a page Identifies and counts information and counts and counts and counts words on a page Identifies and counts information and counts are representations of home, about text in the text Identifies and counts information and counts are representations of home, about text Identifies and counts and counts are representations of home, about text Identifies and counts and counts are representations of home, about text Identifies and counts and counts are representations of home, about text Identifies and counts are representations of home, about text Identifies and counts are representations and counts are representations of home, about text Identifies and counts are representations and counts are representations are representations and counts are representations are representations and counts are representations and counts are representations are representations and counts are representations are representations.



Reading Street Unit 3 **OBSERVATION CHECKLIST** *Watch Me Change*

Date of Unit/	// to	//
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Key: I = Introducing D = Developing M = Mastered

Center:	Chants a Expresses Supports Uses actions Can give Discusses Identifies Uses words Understands Understands rhyme or personal ideas or and words to details about similarities plurals like near and and answers and uses most																					
Teacher: Student:	rhyı	rhyme or song of unit needs and wants			Supports ideas or opinions with reasons		Uses actions and words to show emotions		Can give details about unit topics		Disc simil	cusses	Ide	ntifies	like near and far to indicate location		Understands and answers questions about the Talk With Me Charts		Understands and uses most of the Amazing Words		Role plays and dramatizes: - an animal family, - healthy	
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Reading Street
Unit 4 **OBSERVATION CHECKLIST**Let's Find Out

Key: I = Introducing
D = Developing
M = Mastered

Center:								Cogn	itive S	kills/C	Compr	ehens	ion							
Teacher:	Recognizes that meaning can be obtained from print and pictures Pre Post		Uses illustrations to make predictions		Distinguishes between fact and fiction		Generates questions about text		Summarizes information in the text		Recalls story events		Answers questions correctly about events in the story		Identifies main idea		Expresses ideas about characters' points of view		Can g an altern endin story	ative g to a
Student:	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
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Reading Street
Unit 4 **OBSERVATION CHECKLIST**Let's Find Out

Key: I = Introducing D = Developing M = Mastered

Center:				Oral Language Skills																		
Teacher: Student:			ideas or opinions with reasons details about unit topics		Discusses similarities and differences		Uses language to communicate to an audience		Identifies the meaning of a word		Can improvise dialogue		Discusses ways to solve problems		Uses complete sentences in conversa- tions		Understands and answers questions about the Talk with Me Charts		Understands and uses most of the Amazing Words		gettin for be using appro vocab	priate oulary
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Reading Street Unit 5 **OBSERVATION CHECKLIST** Going Places

Date of Unit/ to/

Key: I = Introducing D = Developing M = Mastered

Names and describes characters and their actions Pre Post Pre	et s	Identifies what makes a text funny, sad, happy, scary, informative, etc. Pre Post
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Reading Street Unit 5 **OBSERVATION CHECKLIST** Going Places

Date of Unit	/	/	to	/	/	

Key: I = Introducing D = Developing M = Mastered

Center:										Ora	l Lan	guage	Skills	kills								
Teacher:	Discusses similarities and differences			ifies the ing of a	senter	complete sentences in conversa-		Discusses ways to solve problems		Supports ideas or opinions with reason		Accurately joins into rhythmic and predictable reading		Can recite a rhyme or sing a song		Makes up a new verse to a song		Understands and answers questions about the Talk With Me Charts		Understands and uses most of the Amazing Words		on s to ate on
Student	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
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Reading Street Unit 6 **OBSERVATION CHECKLIST** Building Our Homes

Key: I = Introducing
D = Developing
M = Mastered

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Center:												prehe	ension							
Teacher:	words writte words books	spoken words to written words in books and dictation		Uses titles and illustrations to activate prior knowledge		Names and describes characters and their actions		Compares and contrasts texts		Retells sequence of story events		Tells what happened first, next and last in a story		Answers questions correctly about events in the story		Generates questions about text		Summarizes information in the text		se ntions or t text to ehension
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Reading Street Unit 6 **OBSERVATION CHECKLIST** Building Our Homes

Date of Unit	/ / 1	to / /

Key: I = Introducing D = Developing M = Mastered

Center:										Ora	l Lan	guage	Skills	5								
Teacher: Student	Discu simila and differ	ences	word	fies the ing of a	Uses comp senter conve	nces in ersa-	Accurately joins into rhythmic and predictable reading		Can recite a rhyme or sing a song		Can participate in making up a new verse to a song		solve problems presented in the story		Understands multi-step directions		Understands and answers questions about the Talk With Me Charts		Understands and uses most of the Amazing Words		Discu machi and w they o	ines vhat do
Student	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
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