

# Baseline assessment observation sheet

## Nursery

Communication,  
language and literacy

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Practitioner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Throughout the assessment, you should give the child a reasonable length of time to answer each question.

- In response to open-ended questions, you should **accept any relevant answer(s)**.
- If the child does not respond, move on to the next question without selecting an answer.

There is space to record how **confidently** and **independently** the child answered each question. You can use the 'Notes' sections to record any extra useful information. For example:

- the child's response
- strategies used by the child
- the child's behaviour
- strategies used by the practitioner

This assessment is designed to be enjoyable and part of a child's everyday learning. Use your professional judgement and knowledge of the child to decide how much of the assessment the child completes.

Questions 1–4 assess the child's **early vocabulary**.

Vocabulary			
1	Let's read a story about Joey and his big sister! <b>(point to boy) This is Joey.</b> <b>Point to his sister.</b>		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
	Independence 1 2 3	Notes	
	Confidence 1 2 3		

2	Joey and his sister are at the seaside today! They see a bird. <b>Point to the bird.</b>		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/> Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Independence 1 2 3 Confidence 1 2 3	Notes	
3	They have a big bag full of everything they need. <b>Look at the picture. Tell me one thing you can see.</b>		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/> Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Independence 1 2 3 Confidence 1 2 3	Notes	
4	Joey and his sister walk along the beach. <b>Look at the picture. What is the weather like at the beach?</b>		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/> Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Independence 1 2 3 Confidence 1 2 3	Notes	

Questions 5–7 assess the child's **phonological awareness**.

Identify words that rhyme			
5	Joey loves to twirl and whirl in the sea! <b>Which word rhymes with 'twirl': 'Joey' or 'whirl'?</b>		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/> Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Independence 1 2 3 Confidence 1 2 3	Notes	

6	Joey gets out of the sea. He finds a beautiful shell near a tree. <b>Which word rhymes with 'sea': 'shell' or 'tree'?</b>		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
	Independence 1 2 3 Confidence 1 2 3	Notes	

Identify words with the same initial sound			
7	After all that fun, Joey is ready to relax. <b>What sound do 'ready' and 'relax' start with?</b>		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
	Independence 1 2 3 Confidence 1 2 3	Notes	

Questions 8–10 assess the child's **early comprehension**.

Understand a story			
8	<b>Where did Joey and his sister go today?</b>		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
	Independence 1 2 3 Confidence 1 2 3	Notes	
9	<b>Do you think Joey had a good time at the beach? Why?</b>		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
	Independence 1 2 3 Confidence 1 2 3	Notes	

10	What do you think Joey and his sister will do next?		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
	Independence    1   2   3	Notes	
Confidence       1   2   3			