

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! (point to boy) This is Joey. Point to his sister.		
	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. Point to the bird.		
	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. Look at the picture. Tell me one thing you can see.		
	e.g. a hat, a towel, a bucket, a spade, a bag, sand, water		
	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. Look at the picture. What is the weather like at the beach?		
	e.g. sunny, hot, nice, good		
	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	Next, Joey jumps into the sea. He likes to play in the waves all day. Which word rhymes with 'play' : 'Joey' or 'day'?		
	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.		
	Which word rhymes with 'sea': 'shell' or 'tree'?		
	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		

Identify words with the same initial sound			
7	After all that fun, Joey is ready to relax.		
	What sound do 'ready' and 'relax' start with?		
	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		

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

Understand a story			
8	Where did Joey and his sister go today?		
	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		
9	Do you think Joey had a good time at the beach? Why?		
	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		

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			