

Spring 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

For questions 16–18, you will need a selection of books for the child to choose from.

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 1–5 assess the child's **early vocabulary**.

Vocabulary			
1	Let's read a story about May and her dad! (point to girl) This is May. (point to man) Who is this?		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
	Independence <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3	Notes	
	Confidence <input type="radio"/> 1 <input type="radio"/> 2 <input type="radio"/> 3		

2	May wants to bake a cake. She takes out a bowl and Dad turns on the oven.		
	Point to the bowl.		
	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	Dad helps May find the things she needs.		
	Tell me something that you see.		
	e.g. fruit, strawberries, eggs, butter, sugar, flour, table, May, Dad		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
4	May starts adding things to the bowl.		
	Look at the picture. What is May doing?		
	e.g. pouring, mixing, baking		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
5	May needs to add eggs and butter.		
	Tell me where the eggs are in this picture.		
	e.g. next to the bowl, behind the butter, on the table		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
	May needs to add eggs and butter.		
	Tell me where the eggs are in this picture.		
	e.g. next to the bowl, behind the butter, on the table		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>
	May needs to add eggs and butter.		
	Tell me where the eggs are in this picture.		
	e.g. next to the bowl, behind the butter, on the table		
	Could answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/>	Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/>

Questions 6–12 assess the child's **phonological awareness**.

Identify words with the same initial sound

6	With Dad's help, the cake is ready to go in the oven. In this picture, I see a bowl, a table and a cup. Which word starts with the 'b' sound: 'bowl', 'table' or 'cup'?		
	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 that rhyme

7	May and Dad begin to sing, "First we stir, then we bake, we can't wait to eat some ____!" Which word should finish this song? The word rhymes with bake.		
	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	

8	Whilst May and Dad wait for the cake to bake, they do a wiggly, giggly dance. Tell me which two words rhyme out of 'wiggly', 'giggly' and 'dance'.		
	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 the number of syllables in a word

9	<p>Dad uses oven gloves to take the baking tin out of the oven.</p> <p>I can clap the syllables in 'oven'. (<i>clap</i>) 'O-ven'.</p> <p>Can you clap the syllables in the word 'baking'?</p>		
	<p>Could answer <input type="checkbox"/> Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/></p>		
	<p>Independence 1 2 3</p> <p>Confidence 1 2 3</p>	<p>Notes</p>	
10	<p>Once the cake has cooled, May starts to decorate it! She adds chocolate buttons and juicy berries.</p> <p>I can clap the syllables in 'juicy'. (<i>clap</i>) 'Jui-cy'.</p> <p>Can you clap the syllables in the word 'decorate'?</p>		
	<p>Could answer <input type="checkbox"/> Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/></p>		
	<p>Independence 1 2 3</p> <p>Confidence 1 2 3</p>	<p>Notes</p>	

Isolate phonemes from words

11	<p>For the final touch, May adds a cherry on top.</p> <p>What sounds do you hear in the word 'top'?</p>		
	<p>Could answer <input type="checkbox"/> Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/></p>		
	<p>Independence 1 2 3</p> <p>Confidence 1 2 3</p>	<p>Notes</p>	
12	<p>At last, May and Dad can enjoy their perfect sweet treat.</p> <p>What sound do you hear in 'sweet' and 'treat': the 'ee' sound or the 'ay' sound?</p>		
	<p>Could answer <input type="checkbox"/> Struggled to answer <input type="checkbox"/> Question skipped <input type="checkbox"/></p>		
	<p>Independence 1 2 3</p> <p>Confidence 1 2 3</p>	<p>Notes</p>	

Questions 13–15 assess the child's **early comprehension**.

Understand a story			
13	What did May and her dad do today?		
	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	
14	How does May feel about baking?		
	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	
15	What will May and her dad do next?		
	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 16–18 assess the child's understanding of **books and print**.

For this section, you will need a selection of books for the child to choose from.

Understand key concepts about print			
16	Now we've read my story, which book would you like to choose? Show me the cover of your book.		
	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	

17	Point to the title of your book.		
	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	
18	Show me some words in your book.		
	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	