Engaging Families in Children's Literacy Development

Session 1: Literacy Happens at Home

Home Literacy Survey

Na	me:	Date
Ch	ild:	
	aswer these questions about the ways you and your child interact with lite e box that best answers the question. Add a comment if you wish to furth	
Н	IOME ENVIRONMENT	
1.	Do we have a lot of print in our home, such as magazines, books, newspapers, and letters/emails? Comment:	☐ Yes ☐ Some ☐ Very little
2.	Are there books or other print materials in every room of our home? Comment:	☐ Yes, in most rooms ☐ In some rooms ☐ Very few rooms
3.	Do I encourage my child to interact with or use that print in those rooms? Comment:	☐ Yes ☐ A little ☐ No
4.	Do we have a lot of different types of texts, such as storybooks, rhyming books, alphabet books, informational books, cookbooks, and concept books (about shapes, numbers, or colors, for example)? Comment:	☐ Yes, a lot of different types☐ Some different types☐ Very few types of books
5.	Do we have a special place where we read in our home? Comment:	☐ Yes ☐ It changes ☐ We do not have a special place
C	DRAL LANGUAGE	
1.	Do I provide opportunities to talk with my child? Comments:	☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely
2.	Do I show interest in what my child wants to talk about? Comments:	☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely
3.	Do I explain unfamiliar words to help my child learn them? Comments:	☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely
4.	Do I sing songs and share nursery rhymes or other rhymes with my child? Comments:	☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely
5.	Do I use interesting new words when talking with my child? Comments:	☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely
R	EADING ALOUD	
1.	Do I read to my child every day? Comments:	☐ Yes ☐ No, but at least a few times per week ☐ No, we rarely read together
2.	Do I model that I'm having fun reading aloud? Comments:	□ Often □ Sometimes □ Rarely

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3.	When I read aloud, do I let my child talk and ask questions about what we are reading before we read, while we are reading, and after we read? Comments:	☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely	
4.	Do I help my child understand what we are reading by relating it to things in his or her life, other books, or other things that we know about? Comments:	☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely	
5.	Do we talk about how books work as we read (for example, where we start reading, the front and the back of the book, and where to find the title)? Comments:	☐ Usually☐ Sometimes☐ Rarely	
WRITING			
1.	Do I encourage my child to write and draw? Comments:	☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely	
2.	Do I provide my child with materials for writing and drawing, such as a variety of papers, pencils, markers, and crayons? Comments:	☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely	
3.	Do I encourage my child to write his or her name? Comments:	☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely	
4.	Do I ask my child to read me what he or she has written? Comments:	☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely	
5.	Do I model writing in front of my child and talk about what I'm doing (for example, answering an email, paying a bill, or writing a letter)? Comments:	☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely	
C	THER LITERACY ACTIVITIES		
1.	Do I have letters that my child can play with (for example, magnet letters, letter stamps, or cut-out letters)? Comments:	☐ Yes, we have a few kinds of letters☐ Yes, we have at least one kind of letters☐ No	
2.	Do I play games with my child that involve literacy? Comments:	☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely	
3.	Does my child have access to materials to act out stories (for example, paper puppets, sock puppets, or dress-up clothes)? Comments:	☐ Yes, we have a few kinds of materials ☐ Yes, we have at least one kind of material ☐ No	
4.	When I cook, do I allow my child to help read the recipe and prepare the food? Comments:	☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely	
5.	Do I talk about the print we see when I go on walks or outings with my child? Comments:	☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely	