

*Developmental Phases in Linguistic and Reading Comprehension

Child: _____ Age: ____ Grade: _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Labels objects in books <input type="checkbox"/> Comments on characters in books <input type="checkbox"/> Uses new vocabulary and grammatical construction in own speech <input type="checkbox"/> Understands and follows oral directions <input type="checkbox"/> Is sensitive to some sequences of events in stories <input type="checkbox"/> When read to, connects information and events to real-life experiences <input type="checkbox"/> Questions and comments demonstrate understanding of the literal meaning of the story being read or told	Pre-K
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<input type="checkbox"/> "Reads" familiar texts using picture clues, memory for the story, and some familiar words, i.e., not necessarily verbatim from the print alone <input type="checkbox"/> Uses new vocabulary and grammatical constructions in own speech <input type="checkbox"/> Notices when simple sentences fail to make sense <input type="checkbox"/> Retells, reenacts, or dramatizes stories or parts of stories <input type="checkbox"/> Correctly answers questions about stories read aloud <input type="checkbox"/> Makes predictions based on illustrations or portions of stories	K
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<input type="checkbox"/> Reads aloud with accuracy and comprehension any text that is appropriately designed for the grade level <input type="checkbox"/> Comprehends both fiction and nonfiction that is appropriately designed for the grade level <input type="checkbox"/> Shows evidence of expanding language repertoire, including increasingly appropriate use of standard, more formal language <input type="checkbox"/> Reads and understands simple written instructions <input type="checkbox"/> Predicts and justifies what will happen next in stories <input type="checkbox"/> Uses how, why, and what-if questions to discuss texts <input type="checkbox"/> Describes new information gained from texts in own words <input type="checkbox"/> Recognizes when simple sentences are incomplete or fail to make sense; notices when simple texts fail to make sense <input type="checkbox"/> Can answer simple written comprehension questions based on the material read	Grades 1-2
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<input type="checkbox"/> Rereads sentences when meaning is not clear <input type="checkbox"/> Interprets information from diagrams, charts, and graphs <input type="checkbox"/> Recalls facts and details of texts <input type="checkbox"/> Reads nonfiction materials for answers to specific questions or for specific purposes <input type="checkbox"/> Takes part in creative responses to texts such as dramatizations, oral presentations/fantasy play, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Discusses similarities in characters and events across stories <input type="checkbox"/> Poses possible answers to how, why, and what-if questions	Grades 3 & Above
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Key: + always does (mastered)
+/- sometimes does (instructional)
- never does

Completed by: _____
Position: _____ Date: _____

*Adapted from Starting Out Right, Burns, Griffin, Snow, Eds.; National Research Council, Washington, DC 1999

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