Dear Parent,

We are having so much fun reading in the classroom! Help us grow their little minds at home too!

Read a favorite book with your child and share how much you love it! When you read and write together, it goes further than conversation. It creates background knowledge, builds vocabulary, provides a role model, and helps your child become a reader and writer.

The time you spend working on these activities counts as volunteer hours needed to match funding for the Head Start and Early Head Start programming. This is also known as inkind.

Please sign below and record the amount of time you and your child spent reading books this month.

Thank you for reading with your child!

Child’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total time spent reading and doing literacy activities with your child:

Week 1 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Week 2 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Week 3 \_\_\_\_\_\_ Week 4 \_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Staff’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **Book Appreciation:** In developing an appreciation of reading and writing, children begin to understand how print works and the fact that print carries meaning.

**When reading aloud to your child:**

* Find a cozy spot with minimal distractions to read with your child.
* Allow your child to hold the book and turn the pages while you read.
* Sweep your finger under the print as you read.

**Read a variety of different kinds of reading materials with your child.**

* Read both story books and informational ones too.

**Older toddlers and preschool age children:**

* Invite your child to prepare a simple recipe with you. Read the instructions aloud with your child. Let them help with any simple, safe steps.
* Look at and read menus together. Point to the words as you read aloud each item.

**REMEMBER: Take time for yourself to read. If your child sees you enjoy and appreciate books, he or she will learn to value reading also.**