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: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comprehension:** *Comprehension is the ability to understand and draw meaning from text. By reading aloud to children, you build their vocabulary and comprehension.*

**When reading, stop and talk with your child to build comprehension skills.**

* Stop and talk about the pictures.

**For younger toddlers:**

* Point to and say the name of objects aloud.

**Older toddlers and preschool children:**

* Say, “What do you see in the picture?”
* Ask, “What do you think will happen?”
* Make connections between a story and real life. Ask, “Do you remember when…?”

**Build new vocabulary with older toddlers and preschool children:**

* First, stop and point out interesting words.
* Then, give a child-friendly definition. Example: Stop and point to the word feast. Say, “Feast, that’s a really big dinner.”

**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.**