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

**Emergent Writing:** *Children are never too young to see themselves as authors. Preschool children draw pictures to tell their stories. They will use some letter-like forms, letters, or temporary spellings to create text.*

**Help your child learn what it means to be an author:**

* Provide your child with a stapled booklet of paper (3 or 4 pages) to create a short picture book.
* As your child creates their book, you might ask:
  + “What is your book going to be about?”
  + “Tell me about this page in your book?”
  + “What is the title of your book?”
  + “Sometimes books have pictures and words. Do you think you could add some words?”
  + “Will you read me your story?”
* Make lists with pictures or words.
* Create cards/letters together and mail to friends and family.

**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.**