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 writers. Preschool children will draw pictures, some letter-like forms, letters, or temporary spellings to create text.*

**Help your child learn what it means to be a writer:**

* Put your child’s name up around the house to label things that are hers and where those items belong. For example, post name on bedroom door or where you would like him to place his shoes.

**For younger toddlers:**

* Use finger to “write” or draw in finger paint, sand, cool whip, or pudding.

**For older toddlers and preschoolers:**

* Create a writing box which includes pencils, markers, paper, envelopes, scissors, notebook, glue stick, etc.
* Write your child’s name on a piece of paper and keep it with the writing box as a resource for when he writes his name.

**Provide reasons for your child to write her name:**

* On drawings
* Letters
* Greeting cards

**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.**