

# THE ESSENTIAL PRESCHOOL OBSERVATION FORM

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Physical Development Milestones - Gross Motor Skills

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### I can:

Walk up and down stairs using alternating feet  
Pivot to change direction while running  
Throw a ball

Skip, using a step-hop cadence  
Balance on one leg  
Throw and manipulate balls with a full range of motion

## Physical Development Milestones - Fine Motor Skills

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### I can:

Use a pincer grip to grasp very small objects  
Use a tripod grip to hold writing tools  
Cut with scissors with scaffolding and support  
Write name legibly

Draw several recognizable shapes  
Stack blocks  
Attempt to button or zipper jacket or coat

## Cognitive Development Milestones - Literacy

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### I can:

Generate rhyming words  
Match the beginning sound of some words  
Identify syllables in words  
Demonstrate that a series of letters form a word  
Identify and name 11 to 20 upper- and lowercase letters  
State the alphabet in order  
Produce the correct sounds for 10 to 20 letters  
Demonstrate understanding of concepts about print  
(how a book works)

Turn book pages from front to back  
Indicate where to start reading and the direction to follow  
Discuss details about stories with an adult, such as the beginning, middle and end  
Pretend to read using some words or elements from the text  
Retell familiar stories in own words  
Use drawing and dictation to express a message

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## Cognitive Development Milestones - Mathematics

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### I can:

Verbally count to ten or higher by rote  
Count to five or higher using one-to-one correspondence  
Recognize groups of up to five objects without counting  
Identify numbers up to 5 or higher and connect each to counted objects  
Follow simple directions related to proximity  
Identify and name the basic shapes

Compare and order objects by size  
Sort objects by at least one variable (color, shape, etc.)  
Understand the daily routine and schedule  
Create and/or discuss simple graphs  
Extend and create simple repeating patterns (AB, AABB, ABC)

## Social Development Milestones

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### I can:

Show awareness of differences between children  
Begin a friendship with a designated "best friend"  
Play in groups of three or more children without conflict

Join activities started by other children  
Initiate activities for others  
Share tools and toys with limited adult support

## Emotional Development Milestones

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### I can:

State first and last name without prompting  
Demonstrate empathy when a friend is sad or excited  
Share new abilities and accomplishments with pride  
Participate in classroom jobs or simple chores  
Engage in complex pretend or make-believe play

Moderate behavior to match a scenario (loud on the playground, quiet during nap)  
Take turns during games and play  
Tell the difference between real and make-believe when appropriate

## Anecdotal Records: