Early Language and Literacy

Language Comprehension (Receptive Language) 1

1 **Birth-8 months** 1.1

1 Maintains eye contact with person looking at him or her: 1.1.1

a mutually gazes with primary caregivers, shows preference for voice of primary caregivers 1.1.1.A

2 Reacts to human voice: 1.1.2

a appears to watch or listen, quiets self, turns toward conversation 1.1.2.A

3 Reacts to new voices or sounds by becoming more quiet or active: 1.1.3

a startles or cries at loud sounds, shows different responses to tones of voice, looks for source of sounds 1.1.3.A

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2 **6-18 months** 1.2

1 Responds with gestures or vocal signals to familiar words: 1.2.1

a responds to own name 1.2.1.A

b turns to look at familiar person/ object/pet when named 1.2.1.B

c understands simple phrases as “byebye”, “hot”, etc. 1.2.1.C

d points or reaches to familiar objects when named as in body parts, favorite toys, family pictures 1.2.1.D

2 Understands simple one step requests such as “Get your blanket”, “Give me your cup”. 1.2.2

3 Looks to adult for messages about appropriate or inappropriate behavior. 1.2.3

4 Attends to and enjoys listening to adult voices: rhymes, songs, short stories, imitation games such as pat-a-cake. 1.2.4

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3 **Indicators: 16-36 months** 1.3

1 Understands a variety of simple two-step requests and follows multi-step daily routines like handwashing. 1.3.1

2 Understands names for common objects, familiar people, familiar actions. 1.3.2

3 Understands contrasts such as: 1.3.3

a yes/no, come/go, run/stop, up/ down, fast/slow 1.3.3.A

4 Understands prepositions such as: 1.3.4

a on, in, under, over 1.3.4.A

5 With adult direction, finds items needed for an activity. 1.3.5

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6 Shows increased attention span when being read to, listening to rhymes, finger plays, songs of increased complexity. 1.3.6

Language Expression (Expressive/Productive Communication) 2

1 Birth-8 months 2.1

1 Initiates communication with caregiver: maintains eye contact: 2.1.1

a looks intently at caregiver 2.1.1.A

b cries, grunts or makes loud sounds to seek caregiver assistance 2.1.1.B

c smiles or gestures to initiate social contact 2.1.1.C

d moves body in anticipation of being picked up 2.1.1.D

2 Makes a variety of repetitive sounds or gestures: babbles and coos; pairs consonants and vowels with repetition such as “ma” or “da”; uses hands to express self. 2.1.2

2 6-18 months 2.2

1 Uses physical gestures or sounds to get help from adult: 2.2.1

a gazes between adult and desired item, 2.2.1.A

b tugs or pulls on caregiver 2.2.1.B

c moves, points or motions to object out of reach 2.2.1.C

d expresses own needs such as hunger or wanting comfort item 2.2.1.D

2 Expresses self with movement or facial expressions: shakes head “no”; nods “yes”; smiles; frowns. 2.2.2

3 Takes turns in back-and-forth verbal play with caregiver that mimics a conversation. Responds to caregiver’s speech by babbling/uttering in reply. 2.2.3

4 Moves toward expression of identifiable words: 2.2.4

a jargon has melody and inflection 2.2.4.A

b imitates familiar words/sounds 2.2.4.B

c begins expressing clearly words like “mama”, “dada”, “bye-bye”, “no”, “baba”(bottle) 2.2.4.C

3 Indicators: 16-36 months 2.3

1 Uses words or actions to request assistance: 2.3.1

a asks for food when hungry 2.3.1.A

b asks for help 2.3.1.B

c may use words to solve conflicts with peers/siblings 2.3.1.C

2 Combines words into simple sentences: “Mommy bye-bye”, “Milk all gone”. 2.3.2

3 Asks and answers simple questions: lots of what, why and where questions. 2.3.3

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4. Uses everyday experiences to build on vocabulary: 2.3.4
    a. talks about what they are doing 2.3.4.A
    b. uses language to convey simple ideas 2.3.4.B
5. Refers to self by name; uses personal pronouns (I, me, you) with increased proficiency. 2.3.5
6. Vocabulary increases with age; articulation becomes increasingly clearer; may express feelings both physical and emotional. 2.3.6
7. Carries on sustained interactions with caregivers. 2.3.7

Emergent Literacy 3

1 Birth-8 months 3.1

1. With a responsive adult, looks at and attends to pictures of other babies or faces. 3.1.1
2. Looks at books, pats the pictures, brings book to mouth. 3.1.2
3. Kicks feet or moves arms in response to music. 3.1.3
4. Listens and attends to repetitions of culturally and linguistically familiar words, songs or rhymes. 3.1.4
5. Uses signs or gestures in response to adult's conversation with them about photos of familiar people. 3.1.5

2 6-18 months 3.2

1. Exhibits increased participation when books are read: 3.2.1
    a. points 3.2.1.A
    b. makes sounds 3.2.1.B
    c. vocalizes 3.2.1.C
    d. smiles 3.2.1.D
    e. turns page 3.2.1.E
2. Makes motions for familiar games, rhymes, songs or finger plays. 3.2.2
3. Begins to "use" communication tools during imitative play: 3.2.3
    a. uses phone or book 3.2.3.A
    b. grasps marker or crayon 3.2.3.B
4. makes marks on paper 3.2.4

3 Indicators: 16-36 months 3.3

1. Exhibits increased participation with written forms of communication: 3.3.1
    a. looks at books, magazines as if reading 3.3.1.A
    b. makes sounds that relate to pictures 3.3.1.B
    c. turns pages at the right time 3.3.1.C

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2. Recognizes signs and symbols in the environment: identifies stop sign, labels or logos of familiar places/items; memorizes and repeats phrases of songs, books, rhymes. 3.3.2
3. Increased understanding of communication tools: 3.3.3
    a. converses with others using play phone 3.3.3.A
    b. tells others what own scribbles mean 3.3.3.B
4. Shows increased attention when being read to: 3.3.4
    a. begins to make observations about the use of words and pictures 3.3.4.A
    b. enjoys stories of increasing complexity 3.3.4.B