

Progress Checks

Four quick checks: end of September, December, March and May

Each check takes five to ten minutes with one child. It shows what has stuck and what needs another look. It is not a test the child can fail: kindergartners grow in jumps, and a skill that is shaky in December is often solid by March.

How to do a check

- 1 Print the child pages and one score page. The child looks at the child pages; you hold the score page.
- 2 Point to one item at a time. Cover the rest with a sheet of paper if the page is busy.
- 3 Tick each item the child gets right on the first try. If the child says "I don't know", move on.
- 4 The spoken items (counting out loud, rhymes, sounds) have no child page. Read them from the score page.
- 5 Copy the totals onto the year record at the back, so you can see the whole year on one page.

What the results mean

Most of the taught items right: carry on with the next month. A few missed: add them to the review sheets and the sound games for the next two weeks. Many missed: slow down. Repeat the last month's letter and sight word pages, read the same books again, and check again in three weeks. Letters and words that have not been taught yet are shown but do not count.

In this section

Check 1 • End of September (after week 4)

Knows some letters by name, the sounds of s, a, t and p, counts to 10 and knows the numbers 0 to 10.

Check 2 • End of December (after week 16)

Knows the 16 letters taught so far by name and sound, reads 12 sight words and short a, i, o and e words, counts to 30 and adds within 5.

Check 3 • End of March (after week 28)

Knows all 26 letter sounds and sh, ch and th, reads 30 sight words and short-vowel words, counts to 70 and by tens to 100, adds and takes away within 10.

Check 4 • End of May (after week 36)

Reads all 36 sight words, short-vowel words with blends and digraphs, counts to 100, knows adding and taking away facts within 5, names the flat shapes and writes a sentence.

Progress Check 1

End of September · Score page for the grown-up

Name _____

What to expect by now: Knows some letters by name, the sounds of s, a, t and p, counts to 10 and knows the numbers 0 to 10. Do the check in a quiet five or ten minutes, over two days if the child gets tired. Tick each one the child gets right on the first try. Don't teach during the check; just note it and come back to it in next month's review.

Big letters: says the name

in bold: taught so far (4)

C	☐	V	☐	X	☐	H	☐	P	☐	R	☐	K	☐	J	☐	Z	☐
A	☐	Q	☐	N	☐	U	☐	F	☐	Y	☐	G	☐	B	☐	E	☐
S	☐	L	☐	W	☐	I	☐	O	☐	M	☐	T	☐	D	☐		

Taught letters _____ of 4

All letters _____ of 26

Small letters: N = says the name, S = says the sound

in bold: taught so far (4)

h	☐	☐	q	☐	☐	g	☐	☐	b	☐	☐	m	☐	☐	e	☐	☐
	N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S
j	☐	☐	a	☐	☐	f	☐	☐	d	☐	☐	v	☐	☐	x	☐	☐
	N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S
k	☐	☐	l	☐	☐	t	☐	☐	z	☐	☐	c	☐	☐	i	☐	☐
	N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S
p	☐	☐	y	☐	☐	o	☐	☐	u	☐	☐	w	☐	☐	s	☐	☐
	N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S		N	S
n	☐	☐	r	☐	☐												
	N	S		N	S												

Sounds of taught letters _____ of 4

Words I Know: reads the word

see ☐ a ☐ I ☐

Sight words _____ of 3

Progress Check 1

End of September • Score page, continued

Numbers: says the number

7 ☐ 8 ☐ 5 ☐ 2 ☐ 4 ☐ 0 ☐
3 ☐ 1 ☐ 6 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐

Numbers ____ of 11

Spoken math

- ☐ Counts out loud from 1. Goal: 10. Got to: _____
- ☐ Counts the four picture groups (3, 5, 7, 9)

Do they rhyme?

- ☐ cat, hat (yes)
- ☐ sun, fun (yes)
- ☐ bed, red (yes)
- ☐ pig, sock (no)

Say both words. Ask: do they rhyme?

- ☐ dog, cup (no)

First sound

- ☐ sun (/s/)
- ☐ top (/t/)
- ☐ pig (/p/)
- ☐ moon (/m/)

Say the word. Ask: what sound does it start with?

- ☐ apple (/a/)

Clap the parts

- ☐ dog (1)
- ☐ rabbit (2)
- ☐ butterfly (3)

Say the word. Clap it together. Ask: how many claps?

- ☐ pencil (2)

Writing

- ☐ Writes their first name

Notes and what to review next month

Big Letters

Progress Check 1 · End of September

Grown-up: point to each letter and ask, "What letter is this?"

C

V

X

H

P

R

K

J

Z

A

Q

N

U

F

Y

G

B

E

S

L

W

I

O

M

T

D

Small Letters

Progress Check 1 · End of September

Grown-up: point to each one. Ask for its name, then its sound.

h

q

g

b

m

e

j

a

f

d

v

x

k

l

t

z

c

i

p

y

o

u

w

s

n

r

Words I Know

Progress Check 1 · End of September

Grown-up: point to each word and ask the child to read it.

Sight words

see

a

I

Numbers

Progress Check 1 · End of September

Grown-up: point to each number and ask, "What number is this?"

7

8

5

2

4

0

3

1

6

9

10

How many? Count the pictures.

