

Handout #5: Informal Test of Alphabet Knowledge

Directions: This informal test examines a child’s knowledge of the alphabet: letter identification, letter sound knowledge, & letter production.

Letter Identification

Materials: Upper-case alphabet card

Directions: Say to the child, “I’m going to show you some letters and I want you to tell me the name of each letter.” [If needed, show an example by drawing and saying the first letter in the child’s name, “This is an “___”]. Ask the child to point and name each letter.

Scoring: Record child’s incorrect responses. Reversals are incorrect. Self-corrections are not errors

Example
 M D R F I U
 Y C T W B J N
 G S P A K Z Q
 X L E V O H
 Total (26) _____

Letter-Sound Knowledge

Materials: Lower-case alphabet card

Directions: Say to the child, ”This time I’m going to show you some letters and I want you to tell me the SOUND each letter makes.” [If needed, show an example by drawing and saying the first letter in the child’s name, “This is an “___”]. Ask the child to point and name the sound of each letter.

Scoring: Record incorrect responses beside the letter. Self-corrections are not errors.

Total (26) _____
 Probe vowel sounds if long sound is given.

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

Letter Production:

Materials: Blank paper and pencils

Directions: Say to the child, “I want you to write the letters of the alphabet for me as I say them aloud” (sing or say the alphabet song). Reversals are counted as incorrect. Self-corrections are correct. Note whether child wrote upper, lower, or combination.

Total: _____ **Missed Letters:** _____

Examiner’s Copy: Remember to use the student copy for letter identification & letter-sounds knowledge

Example

M D R F I U

Y C T W B J N

G S P A K Z Q

X L E V O H

Example

h m d r f

y i u c t w b

n j x s p a k

g q z l e v o