

Preschool Assessment Guidelines

The Preschool Assessment Tool was created by teachers, for teachers, to collect accurate data formatively over time, and summatively for the Preschool Report Card periods. The Preschool Assessment Tool and Rubric is based upon assessment procedures that preschool teachers across Somerville Public Schools were already using throughout the year to assess what children know and are able to do at various points in their development. These items were chosen because of their alignment with children’s development, curriculum practices, and local and national benchmarks in early childhood.

Because the Preschool Assessment Tool is based on prior preschool assessment practices, much of it will be familiar. However please read the Preschool Assessment Tool and the Rubric carefully so that we achieve consistency in implementation. This consistency gives us valid data that informs practices and our understanding of children’s knowledge base.

Key:

-- = **Not Introduced** (put dash in box)

N = Not Yet Observed (Skill has not emerged and requires further time and observation)

B = Beginning (Emerging demonstration of a skill)

D = Developing (Progressing toward a skill)

M = Mastered (Consistently demonstrating a skill)

Collecting Data

All items on the Preschool Report Card can be assessed using one-on-one assessments procedures or through classroom observations. Shaded sections indicate activities best assessed one to one or in very small groups using a specific script or protocol. For observations: Please see Rubric and Preschool Assessment Guide for specific detail on how to assess these skills.

Getting Started:

Begin by reviewing the Assessment Tool for each child along with the Rubric. For some children you will have already observed some behaviors or skills. Note some evidence in the “notes” section that supports your initial assessment. Then you will know where to start assessing and who needs a close look and future support, and what your overall instructional strategies will be for the coming months.

Preschool Assessment 2016 Implementation Guidelines and Rubric

Observation:

A majority of the report card items should be assessed through classroom observation during the typical classroom day. The Preschool Assessment Tool and Rubric gives example of where and when these items might be observed. In addition, we provide some templates for observations that you might want to use. We encourage you to share your observation practices with each other and we will share these ideas formally from time to time.

One-On-One:

Items: 1.g., 4.a., 5.d., 5.e., 5.g., 5.i., 6.b., 6.c., 6.e., 6.f., 6.g., 6.h.1, 6.h.2., 6.i., 6.j. and 6.k.

The above items are designed to be given in a one on one situation, as you have assessed children in the past. These items should be assessed using the specific procedure on the form and the uniform materials in order to create continuity throughout the district.

*Items 5.g. And 5.i. Can be assessed using either one-on-one assessments procedures or classroom observation notes.

Materials:

Not Provided in Kit:

Cup (1.g.)
Sticker Bin (1.g.)
Children's Book (5.d.)
Paper and Pencils (5.1.)
Items to measure/compare (rods, unifix towers, 6.d.)
Unifix Cubes (6.e.)
Counting Mat (6.g.)
Counting Bears (6.h.1)

Provided in Kit:

Color Cards (4.a.)
Letter Recognition Page (5.e.)
Wipe-off Cards (5.g.)
Basic Shape Cards (6.b.)
Sorting Buttons (6.c.)
Quantity Comparing Plates & Counters (6.i)
Numeral Cards (6.j.)