

Language  
Development



Approaches to  
Learning

Social-  
Emotional  
Development



Cognitive  
Development

Motor  
Development



**K-3** **FORMATIVE  
ASSESSMENT**

***INFORMATION  
for  
FAMILIES***



2016-17  
K-3 Assessment Project

## Improving an Assessment

Teachers need to understand what your child knows and can do. By knowing where your child is, the teacher can help your child get to the next step. In school your child is learning reading, writing, and math. Your child also is learning how to get along with others and work hard on new tasks. To help the class learn new things, teachers need a way to find out what each child already knows.

The process of finding out what a child knows is called *assessment*. Your child's school and teacher are part of a project that is developing a new assessment. The purpose of the project is to learn whether this new assessment is helpful to teachers. This is a research study so you need to give permission for the teacher to collect any information about your child.

If you agree your child can be in this project, your child's teacher will:

- Watch your child in the classroom.
- Ask your child some questions to figure out what he or she knows and can do (for example, ask your child to count objects).
- Take notes about what your child did and said.
- Some teachers might take pictures or videos to record what a child did.
- Put the notes, pictures, and videos into a safe online system.
- Record your child's skill level in the online system.
- Use what the teacher learned to help your child move to the next step.



### Benefits to Teachers and Students

- This will help the teacher know more about what your child can do in several areas.
- The teacher will know where your child is going next in these areas.
- Teachers and students will help in the design of a new assessment.

### Benefits to Your Family

- You will be contributing to helping your child learn.
- You will be contributing to helping other children learn by making the new assessment better.



### Who will see my child's information?

Your child's name will be kept private and will not be used in any discussions or reports. Only the team working on the assessment will see the information that the teachers enter about children.

### Who is developing the assessment?

A team of researchers led by SRI International is developing the new assessment. SRI is one of the world's leading independent research and technology organizations. The researchers are working closely with state education staff and teachers in your state and several other states.