

## ON TRACK WITH LANGUAGE!

The key to keeping language development on track is to consistently observe and document the child's classroom language behavior. This checklist will guide you in your efforts. Share this information with parents so they can use it to do their own analysis at home. If you observe that a child is having difficulty in any area, you can bring it to the attention of your school's director or principal:

### AGES 3–4

Does the Child:

- \* Speak in phrases or sentences?
- \* Use a varied vocabulary?
- \* Incorporate new words into active vocabulary?
- \* Answer your questions rather than repeat parts of them?
- \* Follow simple directions and understand location words such as *over, under, in front of, behind*?
- \* Point to things in picture books, such as an animal or object?
- \* Use pronouns properly?
- \* Generally seem to grow in language use?

### AGES 5–6

Does the Child:

- \* Talk a reasonable amount?
- \* Pronounce familiar words correctly?
- \* Use a varied vocabulary?
- \* Use pronouns correctly?
- \* Use mature syntax (speak like a 5–6 year old rather than a toddler)?
- \* Express thoughts and wishes without struggling?
- \* Follow or remember complex directions?
- \* Have the ability to retell a familiar story or describe experiences or incidents?