

## HAWAII EARLY LEARNING PROFILE (HELP) CHECKLIST

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Date:	1984, 1988
Construct:	Child Development
Standardized:	No
Instrument Type(s):	Direct child or parent assessment
Uses of Information:	HELP can be used to identify needs, track growth and development, and develop plans for meeting objectives. It can be used to identify a child's developmental skills and behaviors along multiple lines of development, the child's developmental skill and behavior strengths and needs, physical and social environment factors affecting development, and the way development in one area may be affecting development in other areas.
Environment:	Not specified
Description:	<p>HELP is a widely-used, family-centered, curriculum-based assessment for use by professionals working with infants, toddlers, young children, and their families.</p> <p>HELP is used for identifying needs, tracking growth and development, and determining "next steps" (target objectives). It offers play-based activities and intervention strategies for each skill.</p> <p>HELP is comprehensive and developmentally sequenced; it covers 685 skills (0-3 years) in six domains: Cognitive, Language, Gross Motor, Fine Motor, Social, and Self-Help.</p> <p>HELP focuses on the whole child--the importance of supportive environments and interactions, building on strengths, and providing activities for working on specific needs.</p>
References:	Parks (1997)



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Cost:	<p>HELP Family-Centered Interview (0-3): \$25(package of 25) HELP Strands (0-3): \$3 each HELP Checklist (0-3): \$3 each HELP Charts (0-3): \$3 each HELP Activity Guide (0-3): \$28 each Inside HELP: Administration and Reference Manual: \$50</p> <p>A 20-minute training video, Using HELP Effectively, can be purchased from VORT for \$14.95. It is recommended that this video be used in conjunction with the Inside HELP manual. The instruction chapter of the Inside HELP manual can be found in the training section on the VORT web page.</p>
Availability of Test Manual:	<p>Yes. The comprehensive administration manual offers developmental assessment procedures for using HELP and provides sample culturally-sensitive family interview questions regarding the child's strengths and needs and family concerns, priorities, and resources related to enhancing the child's development.</p> <p>Among other things, the manual helps with preparing meaningful functional outcome statements from the HELP skills for IFSP development that relates to daily life at home and in the community. It also offers procedures on how to use HELP to adapt for specific disabilities, how to understand a child's functioning in relationship with the parent/caregiver and the child's environment, and what the child can do within the context of play-based activities.</p>
Contact Information:	<p>VORT Corporation P.O. Box 60132 Palo Alto, CA 94306</p> <p>Tel: 650.322.8282 Web: <a href="http://www.vort.com">www.vort.com</a></p>
Instructions:	<p>Print/manual. Additionally, all the HELP skills and activities as an integrated, curriculum-based management system, <u>HELP Together</u>, are available on a disk or CD. The design of this software system adheres to and encourages the ongoing assessment process that serves as the foundation for HELP, and thus the software/database is sold only to programs and professionals already using HELP on a print/manual basis.</p>



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Administrator:	Used by physical, speech, and occupational therapists; early childhood educators; infant specialists; psychologists; social workers; and nurses.
Qualification:	Not specified
Training Required:	Yes  Required training hours not specified
Administration Time:	An initial direct assessment may last from 45 to 90 minutes, but in some cases may be completed in 15 to 20 minutes.
Respondents:	Age range: infants and children 0-36 months, as administered by trained professional.
Scales/Item Options:	Checklist. No specified subscales but the checklist records child progress in six developmental areas: Cognitive, Language, Gross Motor, Fine Motor, Social-Emotional, and Self-Help.
Scoring:	Behaviors are scored as "present," "not present," "emerging," "atypical/dysfunctional," or "not applicable." HELP Strands or HELP Checklist can be used to record outcomes and track progress. Because it divides each domain into strands, HELP Strands is recommended for children with disabilities or more uneven development within a domain. Most of the scoring is done during the assessment. Scoring is available by print/manual basis and software/database.
Languages:	English
Psychometric Properties:	Reliability: None reported. Validity: Face and content validity tests were used to select and group the skills. The skills were selected from growth-and-development scales and standardized tests. An interdisciplinary team of pediatric therapists grouped the skills into strands and sequentially ordered them by age. No tests of concurrent or predictive validity reported.

*Prepared by the National Center on Child Abuse Prevention Research  
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**References:**

- ⇒ ACF, OPRE: [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/ehs/perf\\_measures/reports/resources\\_measuring/res\\_meas\\_toc.html](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/opre/ehs/perf_measures/reports/resources_measuring/res_meas_toc.html)
- ⇒ VORT Corporation: <http://www.vort.com>

