

PROGRAMMING – ASSESSMENT EXAMPLE

This isn't exactly a program as such but it's a good example of how an unprogrammed approach to home education can show 'proof' of learning by assessment.

Quite a few home educator's submit an assessment in the registration process even though the state 'guidelines' require pre-programming. The guidelines are just guidelines and we shouldn't be pressed into producing documents that may not really be part of our home education. I know myself that the programs I have produced in the past for the registration process were filed immediately after and never seen again - a waste of time in producing them. I find the assessment process quite helpful though as it is so encouraging for us to pull everything together and see just how much was achieved over the last year or so.

This assessment is submitted as an example of the sorts of things to notice in your child's learning. The family takes a natural learning approach to their home education which might be more clearly expressed as a child-led approach so pre-programming doesn't exist. However, it should be understood that the parents have and continue to educate themselves about child development and education so that they are able to provide a 'rich learning environment'. They take many opportunities to expose their children to community life and the children are encouraged to participate fully in household activity.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2000

*Overall Themes – 1st Half Year Road Construction
2nd Half Year Space & Space Science & Technology*

English

- Able to illustrate a narrative sequence
- Can re-tell stories in his own words
- Actively participates in storytelling
- Enjoys copying text from printed materials
- Copies specific words for particular projects
- Knows the alphabet (not in order)
- Can write his name in full and many simple words
- Reads simple readers e.g. Hop on Pop, and Sunshine Books beginners series
- Enjoys reading street and traffic signs
- Understands the difference between initials (USA) and words (use)
- Sometimes sounds out words
- Understands the concept of spelling, asks for words to be spelt (e.g. chemical storage area)
- Can find books in the library
- Enjoys a wide variety of written material and books
- Shows a preference for non-fiction and real world texts
- Can use the computer for Living Books CD-roms

Mathematics

- Counts to 100 with minor help
- Enjoys counting in 100s, 1000s and so on



- Enjoys counting forwards and backwards
- Enjoys simple addition and subtraction in real world situations
- Can measure objects
- Can recognise and describe geometric shapes
- Can order objects by size, shape, colour etc
- Assembles 60pc jigsaws without assistance
- Successfully manned his own shop selling 3D space shuttles for 5c each at Oatley Fair

Science & Technology

- Obsessed with space and space technology
- Can recognise and describe different planets
- Regularly achieves Junior Scientist level on Astromania CD-rom
- Knows about solar system, galaxies
- Simple understanding of gravity
- Can give detailed accurate information about space shuttles
- Extensive knowledge of road construction – equipment, process etc
- Enjoys taking things apart and reassembling them
- Adept at using screwdrivers, allen keys etc
- Enjoys games relating to space
- Demonstrates elementary gardening skills
- Can prepare soil for planting
- Can differentiate between weeds and desired plants
- Enjoys all aspects of tending his own garden
- Enjoys participating in household recycling, composting & wormfarming activities
- Can identify various aircraft insignia

Human Society & its Environment

- Interested in other cultures
- Can understand greetings in Mandarin & Spanish
- Can say numbers 1-6 in Spanish
- Can speak a few phrases in Spanish
- Can understand numbers 1-10 in Mandarin
- Can write his name in Cyrillic alphabet letters.
- Can recognise, describe and draw aboriginal flag and flags of Australia, UK, USA, USSR, Japan, China
- Interested in aboriginal art
- Reproduces aboriginal motifs in his own designs
- Fascinated by maps
- Can draw freehand map of Australia and accurately place Sydney
- Interested in pictures & stories by kids from other countries
- Member of Kids Space Connection

Creative & Practical Arts

- Enjoys drawing and painting in many styles
- Creates objects from his own design e.g. 3D space shuttles, space shuttle take-off collage
- Expert at cutting, pasting and using sticky tape
- Can work on one project using different media and different methods
- Can work on a single drawing project in sessions over an extended period of time



(weeks)

- Able to role-play
- Enjoys a wide variety of music
- Joins in dancing
- Enjoys using computer graphics to create pictures (Kids Pix CD-rom)
- Built a space station control deck from found materials
- Enjoys elaborate block play

Personal Development, Health & Physical Education

- Enjoys riding his tricycle
- Runs, jumps & climbs
- Plays happily and safely in the water
- Interested in swimming
- Attempts dog-paddling
- Enjoys playground activities
- Has a special friend (Luke)
- Participates in Home Education Network activities
- Attends Oatley, Croydon & Centennial Park homeschooling group get-togethers
- Is chatty with neighbours
- Helps with younger brother, Bert
- Eats a wide variety of healthy food
- Drinks water
- Able to dress himself
- Able to take himself to the bathroom
- Co-operates with bedtime routines
- Helps with simple daily household chores
- Can tidy his room

