

Concepts of Print

The Los Angeles County Office of Education offers a short, informal, simple test that parents and teachers can use to assess a child's Concepts of Print. The test asks ten questions and shows parents and teachers how to quickly assess the child's ability to answer each question. The questions are:

1. Does the student know the concept of front of the book?
2. Does the student know that the print and not the picture is the part to be read?
3. Does the student know which way to read?
4. Does the student know that print is read from left to right?
5. Does the student know at the end of the line to return to the next line?
6. Does the student have one-to-one match with voice to print? ("Point to the words as I read.")
7. Does the student understand the concept of first and last?
8. Does the student know that the left page is read before the right page?
9. Does the student know the meaning of a question mark?
10. Does the student know the meaning of a period?

You can download the test from <http://teams.lacoe.edu/reading/assessments/print/concepts.html>.

Another helpful website that explains Concepts about Print and offers simple ways to assess it is Utah State University's Emma Eccles Jones Center for Early Childhood Education website: <http://www.coe.usu.edu/ecc/web/resources.html>. This website offers important information on many topics.