

## **COR for Kindergarten provides the right amount of the right information at the right time.**

**The right amount of information** – HighScope’s research team worked with kindergarten teachers and early childhood and content area experts to ensure that our new kindergarten assessment system would ease the assessment burden kindergarten teachers face throughout the school year. Through an iterative process of developing, testing, and analyzing the data we created a 20-item kindergarten entry assessment and a 30-item ongoing formative assessment, both of which produce valid, reliable, fair, and educationally meaningful results that teachers can use to inform instruction and report to parents about their children’s progress.

**The right information** – The five essential, research-based domains lay the foundation of COR for Kindergarten: Literacy and Language, Mathematics, Physical Development and Health, Approaches to Learning and Social and Emotional Development. We aligned each item to early childhood standards and national kindergarten standards, and an exhaustive review of the extant literature provided the research foundation for each of the items. Content experts then reviewed and identified each item as important to assess at kindergarten entry and throughout the school year.

**The right time** – Teachers administer the Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KER) in the first few months of school, right when they are establishing the classroom community and climate for the school year. We recommend teachers spend the first three to four weeks of school getting familiar with our assessment, but getting even more familiar with their students. Because the KER only has 20 items and 5 descriptors per item, teachers can use the simplified format to observe, assess, and evaluate their students in the last four weeks of the assessment window. Teachers administer the Ongoing Record (OR) throughout the remainder of the school year using up to three checkpoints. These three periodic checks on student progress allow adequate information and time for teachers to provide differentiated instruction geared to student need, and give parents the information they need to make educational decisions about their children.

