



Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment (HOME)

HMG Home Visiting

October 2014

Discussion Points

- What is the HOME?
- Why do we use the HOME?
- When do we use the HOME?
- What does the HOME measure?
- How do we use the HOME?
- How do we score the HOME?
- How do we interpret the HOME?
- How do we add the HOME into Early Track?
- HOME Training



What is the Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment?

The Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment (HOME) Inventory (Caldwell, & Bradley, 1984, 2003) is designed to measure the quality and quantity of stimulation and support available to a child in their home environment.



Why do we use the HOME?

- To describe children's family environment as it relates to their developmental outcomes or to interventions which have been implemented.



When do we use the HOME?

- ***Child must be 6 months or older to use the HOME***
- If a child is under 6 months of age at enrollment, the tool must be administered when the child turns 6 months.
- **Current Rules:**
 - Initially due 60 days after program referral
 - 365 days after previous administration of tool.
- **After JANUARY 15, 2015 with the new rules:**
 - Initially due 60 days after determination of program eligibility
 - 365 days after previous administration of tool.



What does the HOME measure?

- 1) Parental Responsivity
- 2) Acceptance of Child
- 3) Organization of the Environment
- 4) Learning Materials
- 5) Parental Involvement
- 6) Variety in Experience.



What does the HOME measure?

- Questions 1-11 → The communication and affective interaction between the caregiver and the child
 - Emotional and verbal responsiveness of the primary caregiver



What does the HOME measure?

- Questions 12-19 → How the adult disciplines the child
 - Avoidance of restriction and punishment



What does the HOME measure?

- Questions 20-25 → How the child's time is organized outside the family house. What the child's personal space looks like.
 - Organization of the physical and temporal environment



What does the HOME measure?

- Questions 26-34 → Presence of several types of toys available to the child appropriate for his age
 - Provision of appropriate play materials



What does the HOME measure?

- Questions 35-40 → How the adult interacts physically with the child
 - Parental involvement with the child



What does the HOME measure?

- Questions 41-45 → The way the child's daily routine is designed to incorporate social meetings with people other than the mother.
 - Opportunities for variety in daily stimulation



How do we use the HOME?

- The procedure is a low-key semi-structured observation and interview done so as to minimize intrusiveness and allow family members to act normally.
- Throughout the course of the visit observations of parent/child interaction and discussions with the parent about objects, events, and transactions that occur are probed and interpreted from the child's point of view.
- The intent is to understand the child's opportunities and experiences.



How do we use the HOME?

- Completed in the child's home with the caregiver **IN** the Home in which the child lives
- **CHILD MUST BE PRESENT AND AWAKE**
- Other family members may be present, but not necessary
- 45 items are scored with either a **+** (yes; available in the home) or **-** (no; not available in the home)
- Each item is identified with and **O** (observation), **I** (interview), or **E** (either) and should be measured using the identified method.



How do we score the HOME?

- Decisions about scoring are made from the child's point of view.
- Stick to the content of each area
 - grocery store does not = department store
 - Eye hand toys for 6 month old does not = eye hand toys for 18 month old
- The number of + marks on the record form for each subscale is added to get the total score.



Infant/Toddler HOME Record Form

Place a plus (+) or minus (-) in the box alongside each item depending on whether the behavior is observed during the visit, or if the parent reports that the conditions or events are characteristic of the home environment. Enter the subtotals and the total on the Summary Sheet. **Observation (O), Either (E), or Interview (I) is indicated for each item.**

I. RESPONSIVITY		24. Child has a special place for toys and treasures. E	+
1. Parent permits child to engage in "messy" play. I	-	25. Child's play environment is safe. O	+
2. Parent spontaneously vocalizes to child at least twice. O	+	IV. LEARNING MATERIALS	
3. Parent responds verbally to child's vocalizations or verbalizations. O	+	26. Muscle activity toys or equipment. E	+
4. Parent tells child name of object or person during visit. O	-	27. Push or pull toy. E	+
5. Parent's speech is distinct, clear, and audible. O	-	28. Stroller or walker, kiddie car, scooter, or tricycle. E	+
6. Parent initiates verbal interchanges with Visitor. O	+	29. Cuddly toy or role-playing toys. E	+
7. Parent converses freely and easily. O	+	30. Learning facilitators—mobile, table and chair, high chair, play pen. E	+
8. Parent spontaneously praises child at least twice. O	+	31. Simple eye-hand coordination toys. E	+
9. Parent's voice conveys positive feelings toward child. O	+	32. Complex eye-hand coordination toys. E	-
10. Parent caresses or kisses child at least once. O	+	33. Toys for literature and music. E	+
11. Parent responds positively to praise of child offered by Visitor. O	+	34. Parent provides toys for child to play with during visit. O	+
II. ACCEPTANCE		V. INVOLVEMENT	
12. No more than 1 instance of physical punishment during past week. I	+	35. Parent talks to child while doing household work. I	-
13. Family has a pet. E	-	36. Parent consciously encourages developmental advance. I	+
14. Parent does not shout at child. O	+	37. Parent invests maturing toys with value via personal attention. I	-
15. Parent does not express overt annoyance with or hostility to child. O	+	38. Parent structures child's play periods. I	-
16. Parent neither slaps nor spansks child during visit. O	+	39. Parent provides toys that challenge child to develop new skills. I	-
17. Parent does not scold or criticize child during visit. O	+	40. Parent keeps child in visual range, looks at often. O	+
18. Parent does not interfere with or restrict child more than 3 times during visit. O	+	VI. VARIETY	
19. At least 10 books are present and visible. E	-	41. Father provides some care daily. I	-
III. ORGANIZATION		42. Parent reads stories to child at least 3 times weekly. I	+
20. Child care, if used, is provided by one of 3 regular substitutes. I	+	43. Child eats at least one meal a day with mother and father. I	-
21. Child is taken to grocery store at least once a week. I	+	44. Family visits relatives or receives visits once a month or so. I	+
22. Child gets out of house at least 4 times a week. I	-	45. Child has 3 or more books of his/her own. E	+
23. Child is taken regularly to doctor's office or clinic. I	+		
TOTALS	I 8	II 6	III 5
	IV 8	V 2	VI 3
	TOTAL 30		



How do we interpret the HOME?

- Compare the actual scores to the Median Scores of the tool.
- If the Actual Score is **LOWER** than the Median Score then that subscale should be discussed with the family and used to guide curriculum and family goals and outcomes.



Infant/Toddler HOME
Bettye M. Caldwell and Robert H. Bradley
Summary Sheet

Family name Jones Date 10/20/14 Visitor Keesce
 Address 1234 Apple Lane Phone (723) 578-9011
 Child's name Jessie Jones Birth date 10/19/13 Age 1 Sex M
 Interviewee Sarah If other than parent, relationship to child _____
 Family composition Mom, Jessie (1yr)
(persons living in household, including sex and age of children)
 Family ethnicity American Language spoken English Maternal education 12th Paternal education —
 Is mother employed? No Type of work when employed? _____ Hrs/Wk _____
 Is father employed? — Type of work when employed? _____ Hrs/Wk _____
 Current child care arrangements at home
 Summarize past year's arrangements at home
 Other person(s) present during visit none
 Notes _____

SUMMARY

Subscale	Possible Score	Median	Actual Score	Comments
I. RESPONSIVITY	11	9	8	
II. ACCEPTANCE	8	6	6	
III. ORGANIZATION	6	5	5	
IV. LEARNING MATERIALS	9	7	8	
V. INVOLVEMENT	6	4	2	
VI. VARIETY	5	3	3	
TOTAL SCORE	45	32	32	

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How do we add the score of the HOME into Early Track?

The screenshot displays the 'EarlyTrack' web application interface. The browser address bar shows the URL: <https://odhgatewaytrng.odh.ohio.gov/EarlyTrack/Pages/Ch>. The page title is 'Inventory | HOME Inventory'. The main content area is titled '(723) 578-9011 (No Email)'. The navigation menu on the left includes: Caregivers, Newborn Home Visit, Referrals, Early Intervention +, Home Visiting - (selected), Home Visitor, Eligibility, Home Visits (highlighted), Home Visit Tools, Time/Activity, Family Plan, Claim Adjustment, HV Schedule, Exit Child, Case Notes, Transfer Child, and History. The 'Home Visiting Tools Detail' form contains the following fields:

- *Tools:** Environmental (dropdown)
- *Home Visit Tool Name:** Home (dropdown)
- Home Visit Tool Date:** 10 / 21 / 2014
- Home Visit Tool Time:** 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Child's age in months at time of Home Visit Tool:** 0 (with 'Get Age' button)
- * Administered By:** Test, Robin (dropdown)
- * Did Parents Complete:** (dropdown)
- ** Responsivity Score:** (dropdown)
- ** Acceptance Score:** (dropdown)
- ** Organization Score:** (dropdown)
- ** Learning Materials Score:** (dropdown)
- ** Involvement Score:** (dropdown)
- ** Variety Score:** (dropdown)
- ** Total Score:** (dropdown)

Buttons for 'Add Note' and 'Save' are located at the bottom right of the form. The system tray at the bottom right shows the time as 2:33 PM on 10/21/2014.



- Caregivers
- Newborn Home Visit
- Referrals
- Early Intervention +
- Home Visiting -
- Home Visitor
- Eligibility
- Home Visits**
- Home Visit Tools
- Time/Activity
- Family Plan
- Claim Adjustment
- HV Schedule
- Exit Child
- Case Notes
- Transfer Child
- History

(723) 578-9011
(No Email)

Status of Requirements Home Visiting Tools List **Home Visiting Tools Detail**

***Tools:** Environmental

***Home Visit Tool Name:** Home

Home Visit Tool Date: 10 / 21 / 2014

Home Visit Tool Time: 11:00 AM 12:00 PM

Child's age in months at time of Home Visit Tool: 0

*** Administered By:** Test, Robin

*** Did Parents Complete:** Yes

**** Responsivity Score:** 8

**** Acceptance Score:** 6

**** Organization Score:** 5

**** Learning Materials Score:** 8

**** Involvement Score:** 2

**** Variety Score:** 3

**** Total Score:** 32



HOME Training

Ohio Train

Ohio Help Me Grow: Home Observation for
Measurement of the Environment

Course Number: 1019134

