

Interest Inventory Worksheet

Lesson 1.2: Understanding Motivation & Interest

Child's Name: _____ Date: _____ Age: _____

Instructions: Spend 10 minutes this week observing your child during free play, conversation, or screen time. Jot down what you notice in each category below. Look for patterns — what keeps showing up again and again?

Observation Area	What to Notice	Your Notes
■ Play Themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do they pretend?• What characters do they become?• What scenarios do they act out?	
■ Questions They Ask	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What makes them curious?• What do they wonder about unprompted?• What topics spark "why" or "how" questions?	
■ Screen Time Choices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What shows do they choose?• What games do they play?• What videos do they rewatch?	
■ Collections & Objects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do they save or collect?• What objects do they treasure?• What do they show off to others?	
■ Repeated Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What do they bring up again and again?• What do they tell stories about?• What gets them talking excitedly?	
■ Physical Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• What movements do they love?• What activities light them up?• What could they do for hours?	
■ Social Preferences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who do they love spending time with?• What social games do they enjoy?• What makes them feel connected?	

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■ Top 3 Interests Summary

Look back at your notes above. Circle patterns that appear in multiple areas. What are the top 3 interests that show up most consistently?

1	Interest: _____
2	Interest: _____
3	Interest: _____

■ Book-Matching Plan

For each of the top 3 interests above, brainstorm potential book topics or genres that could connect:

Interest #1:	_____
Potential books/topics:	_____
Interest #2:	_____
Potential books/topics:	_____
Interest #3:	_____
Potential books/topics:	_____

■ **Next Step:** Take this list to your library or bookstore and find at least one book per interest. Then observe: which book holds their attention longest? What made it work? *This is how you discover the reading spark!*