Open-ended interview

*HV1: That's right. I so often have kids and parents with different names. I often forget. Okay, great. Thanks. Now I just have a series of open ended questions and you've already walked me through this, but we are interested in knowing the kinds of things that you and Child K do in your everyday routine, so if you were to think about an average day for Child K from the time he wakes up to the time he goes to bed, can you walk me through that?

*PAR: It takes me about 15 minutes to make him get up.

*HV1: Okay.

*PAR: He go brush his teeth, put his clothes on. We go outside and wait for the school bus. He goes to school. He doesn't get home until about 4:00 something, 4:15. He gets home. The first thing he do is tell me his day.

He drops his stuff off in the hall. I fuss at him, make him go put it up, put it in his room and then it's time to eat lunch. He eat lunch around that time, and then after he eat lunch, it's time for homework. After homework is done, he gets to go to recess. He gets to go outside or play his video games, either/or.

After he does that for about a good hour, he comes in the house, gets some water, and he usually go to his room and start study time, either study the multiplication tables, reading, whatever the teacher assigned him to do for that day. After he do that, it's time to eat dinner. We eat dinner. He go take a shower. He get his school clothes out. He's in bed.

*HV1: Okay, great. That's very helpful, and we're interested in learning more about what kind of books he likes to read and I know he's showing (Home Visitor) some now, but our question for you is where did you get most of his books from?

*PAR: Yard sales and also the school. They have these little festivals where you can go – book drives or something where you can go –

*HV1: Like a book fair?

*PAR: Yeah, they send the little things home to let us know when it's coming and he'll bug us for money to buy some books, so we'll give him \$10.00, \$20.00, and he actually comes home and buy three, four, five books each time they have one.

*HV1: Great, and what are some things that you do to help Child K become a good reader?

*PAR: Well, number one, I'm a very picky mom. When he does read, I actually make him go over and pronounce the words as we break them down. Sometimes he stutters, so we have to actually make him slow down and actually break the words down. I make him read on his own and then he will ask me, "What is that?"

I'll make him try to sound it out, but for me, that helps him comprehend what he's reading because his thing is comprehension. Child K can read something and then he'll forget it because he's so busy he

wants to go play, so I have to actually make him sit there and actually comprehend what he's reading and then he has to tell me what he read, because that's what he does. That's what we do in my house.

*HV1: Great, and what, if anything, do you do when you see that he's having a hard time with the book?

*PAR: Well, I break it down. Normally, if he's having a hard time, it's basically having a hard time with the word or understanding what a word is, and I will actually give him the meaning of the word. We put it into different sentences. At school, they teach him once you know the definition of a word, it's easy for you to understand it if you put it into a sentence.

He'll put the word into a sentence and he'll understand it. We'll break it down. Child K is really good to catch it on. I don't know. Just have to kind of tell him what it means and then he kind of comprehends it.

*HV1: Okay, great, and what are some questions that you ask him when you talk to him about books that he's read?

*PAR: Number one, what is the whole point of the story? What was the story about? Give me the main point, the main idea. Sum it up for me, and that's basically what he does.

*HV1: Okay, great.

*PAR: And if he doesn't, if he can't get it, then I make him read it again and he has that, but he doesn't have to.

*HV1: Okay, any other questions or is that your primary question?

*PAR: Hmm?

*HV1: Any other questions that you ask him? There doesn't need to be.

*PAR: Those are my main questions that I ask him. I just wanna make sure that he understands what he read, mainly.

*HV1: Got it. Okay, and what, if anything, do you do to motivate him to read?

*PAR: To be honest with you, it's a difference with my boy, because now and then you have to take something away from him, so sometimes I might have to threaten that mommy's gonna take your Xbox out if you do not sit down and do your work. He'll do it. Sometimes you've gotta take some things that they want to compromise, a give and take sometimes.

*HV1: Okay. Yeah. People motivate differently, got it.

*PAR: Very differently.

*HV1: Yeah, some it's incentives, others it's removing stuff.

*PAR: I remove it very quickly, because he gets a lot, so the things that he worships and cherish a lot is the things that I will take from him, and he hates that, so ____ together.

*HV1: Okay, and are there other people in the home that help him with reading?

*PAR: Yes, of course, grandma. I will take care of my grandma. She's here.

*HV1: Okay.

*PAR: Pretty much she's really into his life as well, so she helps out as well and his dad does too. His dad doesn't stay here, but he's around him 24/7. His dad's a very big part of the school too.

*HV1: Right, so I think this particular question is only focusing on people in the home, so let's talk about grandma. What does she do to help with his reading?

*PAR: If I'm working, she'll take over or I might get frustrated. She's a little more calmer than me. I'm a little more stricter in certain areas.

*HV1: Okav.

*PAR: She's a little more calm. That's grandma, so she'll come in and she'll kind of, you know, because he gets frustrated with me. Like, "Mommy just will not let me. I'm ready to get to up." I'm like, "No. Let's read it again," so she comes in. She's good at that, at soothing out the situation.

*HV1: Great. That's always nice to have that support.

*PAR: Oh, yeah, especially grandma.

*HV1: And just a few more questions for you. How do you know if Child K has done a good job of reading a book?

*PAR: Because he'll love to tell me what happened in the story. If I ask him what happened or if he doesn't talk about it, he wasn't really focused or paying attention.

*HV1: Okay, so that's your indicator?

*PAR: Mm-hmm.

*HV1: Got it. Okay, and what do you think makes a good third grade reader? What should a good reader be able to do?

*PAR: Read the words fluently and always sum up what they've read.

*HV1: Okay, all right. How would you describe Child K's reading skills?

*PAR: It needs work. He's good. Child K's good at reading it and sometimes it's hard for him to comprehend what he's reading because he's going so fast, but I don't know. He's average for his age.

*HV1: Okay, and what are your goals for him in terms of his reading this summer?

*PAR: I would love for his reading to get above average, really, and I want him to be more focused in his reading and understand what he's reading. Just pay attention. I just want it to get a little better, but it will.

*HV1: Okay, great. Those are all my questions for you.

Other coded excerpts from home visit

*HV1: All right. How often do you buy Child K books? Never, hardly ever, once or a twice a year, three or four times a year?

*PAR: When they have the book fairs at school, I'll give him money. I'll give him about \$30.00 so he can bring – when he purchase the books. He wanna bring it home, so I'll say once a year.

*HV1: Okay.

*PAR: Because the book fair is probably once a year. Move, Skeeter.