**Inpatient Reach Out and Read: Sample Script**

1. Introduce self

*Medical Student:*  Hello, my name is Colleen, and I am a medical student working with the team of doctors who are taking care of you while you are her at Seattle Children’s Hospital.

1. Introduce Program

*Medical Student:* We are starting a program to bring books to young children who are here in the hospital. Would it be ok if I talk with you a little bit about this program? I’d also like to give you this book for your child.

*(Parent consents to learn more)*

1. Development & Reading

*Medical Student:* Reading with a caregiver is one of the best ways young children learn. Even children as young as 6 months old can learn when you read to them out loud! You can watch how your child is developing when s/he plays with books and listens and tells stories.

Questions to prompt discussion

* What kind of books does your child like? (prompt how parents can choose books best for their child’s age and changes over time)
* Does your child have a favorite book? (use to highlight reading they are already doing together)
* When do you like to read with your child? (use this to promote reading before bed, overall recommendation is 20 minutes every day)
* When you read with your child, what does s/he like to do with the book? (use this to highlight developmental stages)
* Have you had the chance to learn ways to make reading helpful? (use dialogic reading: pointing, talking about pictures, responding to child when s/he points, make funny voices, etc!)

*(Medical student gives book to child and shows parent the handout)*

*(Medical student describes child’s current developmental stage and normal ways for the child to interact with books; discusses importance of reading aloud with children).*

*Medical Student:* Thank you for letting me talk with you today! We’d really love to hear what you think of this program. Inside the book is a survey for you to fill out, which will help the doctors who are designing this program to learn more about how to make this better for children and families. You do not have to complete the survey to keep the book. If you do complete the survey, you can put it in this envelope and ask your nurse to put it in the hospital mail. Or, I can come back and pick it up later.