

Community tool for immunization self-monitoring and health education

Note: This practical self-monitoring and educational tool is designed for testing and use by a community worker wherever an annual head count is conducted. The community itself can also use the tool to increase its involvement in planning and monitoring immunization services.

“My village is my home. Let’s keep it strong.”

Each plank (board, layer of bricks) strengthens the construction of a house. Each missing plank weakens the house. A vaccinated child is like a plank of the house. Vaccinate each child with all required vaccinations to keep your house strong. A well-built house is a safe place for all children to live.

A. Build a house

1. Conduct the annual head count and note the number of infants (up to 12 months complete) in your area – for example 30.
2. Start building a house on a large piece of paper by drawing the first plank (board, layer of bricks) at the base of the house. Label it with number “1” and the name of the oldest infant according to the head count. (See drawing.)
3. Continue laying planks on top with number “2” and the name of the second oldest infant, and so on, until the top plank has the name of the most recent birth.
4. Draw an equal number of unnamed planks on top to double the height of the stack. (for example, $30 + 30 = 60$). These unnamed planks represent babies who will be born after the head count during the coming 12 months.
5. Draw sides and a roof over the house, leaving a little extra space under the roof in case any infants less than 12 months complete come to the village to live.
6. Write the name of the village, the year of the head count, and the number of infants counted. Hang the drawing of the house on the wall of the AWC (health post).

B. Keep your house strong

7. *Look at the register:* For each child in the register who still lives in the village and is less than 12 months complete, look at the drawing of the house to be sure there is a plank with his name on it.

8. *Look at the drawing of the house: For each child with a name on a plank, look at the register to see if he or she is listed there.*

- if that child is not already listed in the register, write his name and date of birth in the register.

- if that child is listed in the register and has received DPT3 (third dose of DPT) fill (shade, color) the space above the child's plank on the drawing of the house.

9. Each time a baby is born (or an infant less than 12 months complete comes to the village to live), write its name on the next unnamed plank and give it the next number.

10. Each time a child receives its DPT3, immediately locate its plank and fill the space above it. Congratulate the mother and father out loud for all to hear. Remind them that their baby must still get its measles vaccination at 9 months of age. Explain to all the mothers and fathers that each child must be vaccinated to keep the house (and the village) strong.

11. Identify children who are old enough but have not received DPT3 (the names of children next to the unfilled planks). Visit their house and remind their parents to bring the child to the AWC (health post) on the day of vaccination.

12. Build (draw) a new house after each annual head count by following the instructions above. Keep the drawing of the previous year's house as a record of your achievement.

<<my village is my home BASICS>>

My Village is My Home

2003

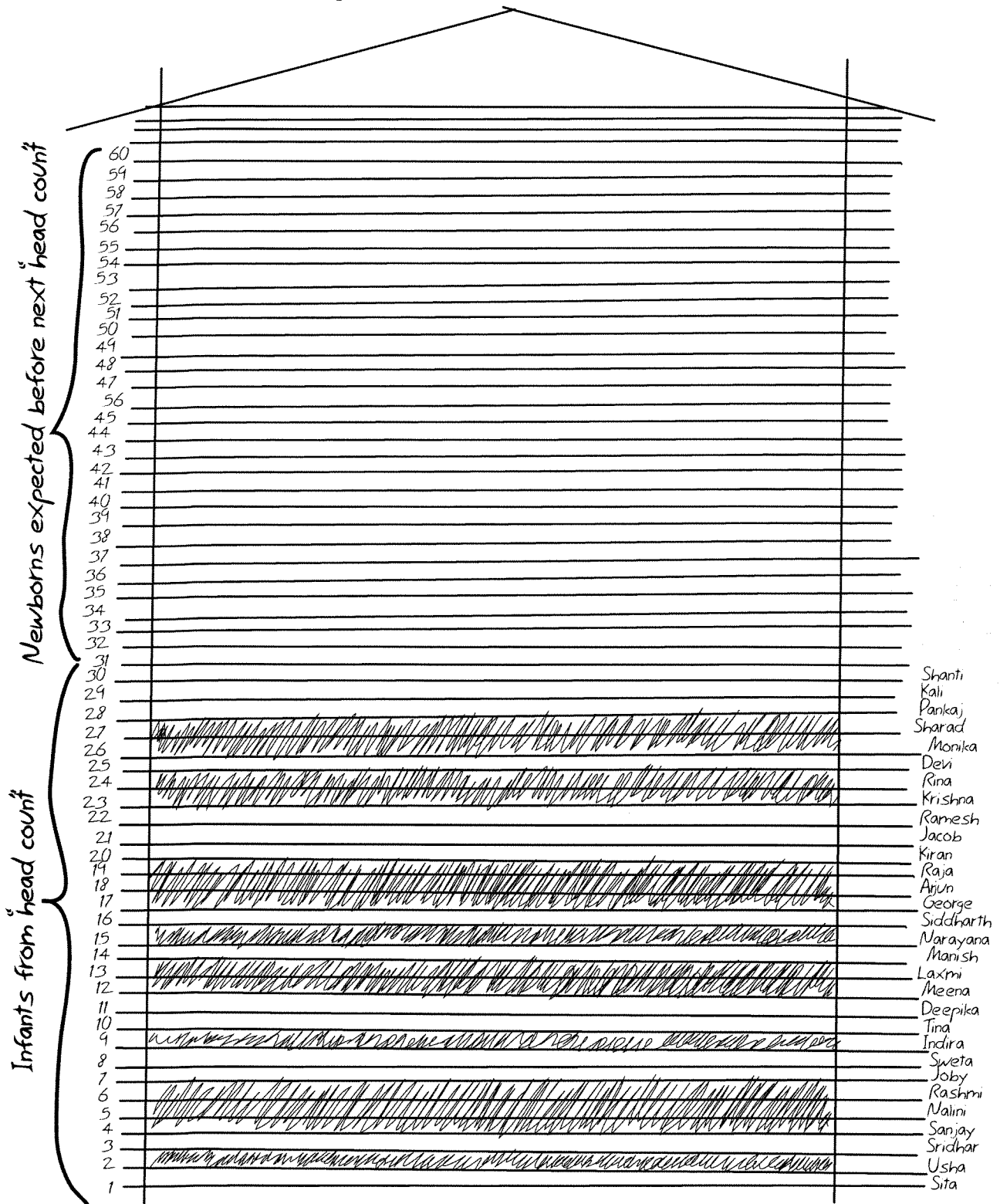
Sitapur

30

Year

Village

Annual head count of infants



How well are we protecting our children with DPT3?

[Hang this drawing for all to see.]