

Reading

Make sure you keep a balance between encouraging your child with learning to read and having fun reading together. Don't give up on telling stories and reading of all kinds to your child to help them to develop an understanding and love of reading. If you do that, you are more likely to keep them reading later! Why not visit our Dogsthorpe library and start reading with your child now?

Book Walk – Encourage your child to look through the book first and observe the pictures. Talk about what is happening in each picture and what they think the book might be about.

Tracking – Encourage your child to point to each word as they read aloud.

Phoneme spotting – Encourage the children to spot phonemes in the text e.g. can you find any word that has the phoneme...in?

Blending words – Encourage the children to blend the word in the text e.g. c-a-t = cat

Phonics

Rhyme Time – Please don't forget to sing rhymes and songs together. You can even ask the children to change the rhyming words (e.g. Humpty Dumpty sat on a ball...)

Eye-spy – Have a game of eye-spy with your child to encourage them to spot things around the room that start with a particular sound.

Robot Arms – Encourage your child to use robot arms to segment and blend (sound out) words for reading. Ask them how many sounds they can hear and how many letters they see.

Sound Buttons – Children draw sound buttons under each word a spot for a short sound and a line for a digraph (2 letters 1 sound) or trigraph (3 letters 1 sound) e.g.

night sheep duck



Phoneme Spotter – Encourage your child to spot phonemes on everyday signs, magazines and television programmes.

LSCWC – Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check. Good for memorising how to spell words. Particularly handy for spelling tricky words (these are words that you cannot sound out e.g. the, to, we, she)

Writing

To help children with writing we first need to develop their fine motor skills (e.g. scissor control, pencil control). To help them to do this you can encourage them to:

- Practice undoing/doing up buttons.
- Use tweezers to pick up small items such as buttons, marbles etc and pop them in a jar.
- Play with playdough – why not do our DOUGH DISCO by logging onto:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-lfzeG1aC4>
- Practice patterns and letters using large paintbrushes/water outside, shaving foam, salt in trays, wet sand. Why not put some paint in an air-tight/zipped food bag and let me practice using this?
- Cut along straight, zig-zagged and curved lines.
- Use lacing cards (you can make your own with card, string and a hole-punch).
- Practice threading beads onto a lace/piece of string.

Letter formation – There is a link on the 'Home Learning' section of the website to practice cursive formation.

Writing weekend/holiday news – Encourage the children to write a sentence about their weekend, holidays, trips out etc.

Segment the sounds – Encourage your child to make a list of their favourite toys, foods or television programmes. Ask them to show you how you how we 'gobble, stretch and segment' the sounds to help us.

Maths

Shape hunt: At home, or when you are out, look at the surface of shapes. Ask your child – what shape is the plate, mirror, bath mat, tea towel, window, door, red traffic light...? Have a shape spotting competition with your child, who can find the most square shaped objects from around the house in a minute?

Number hunt: At home, or when you are out, look out for numbers. Consider numbers of personal significance e.g. house number, phone number, granny's house number and numbers on car registration plates.

Careful counting – Encourage your child to count carefully when helping you complete jobs e.g. counting the number of bananas in the fruit bowl after shopping or counting the number of teddy bears they have on their bed. Can they find the total number using their fingers?

Websites

Crickweb: Sixteen free online education games for Early Years.

<http://www.crickweb.co.uk/Early-Years.html>

4games: Educational games for children aged 4-7 years.

<http://games.e4education.co.uk/groupone/index.php>

Cbeebies: Fun, interactive and educational games stories and activities.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games>

Nature detective: Educational, fun activities involving exploring the world around us.

<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/activities/>

Tate kids: If you love art this is the site for you! View, create and discover all things arty!

<http://kids.tate.org.uk/>

CBBC stay safe: Dongle the rabbit will teach you how to stay safe online

http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/help/safesurfing_eb.co

Storyline online: A range of stories read by different adults and famous celebrities.

<http://www.storylineonline.net/>

Reading Monster: A range of interactive monster themed word and reading based games

<http://www.teachyourmonstertoread.com/games/tm2>

Gruffalo website for Infants - <http://www.gruffalo.com/>

Phonics Play: A brilliant website with lots of fun interactive games to play linked to Letters &

Sounds - <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/freeIndex.htm>

Suggested apps



ABC pocket phonics: Phonics app that teaches Phase 2/3 GPC's, encourages blending of CVC words and letter formation.



Piano: Listen to traditional and popular songs, follow the bubbles to play a well-known tune or compose your own melody.



Dora's great big world: A selection of games focusing on literacy and maths skills. Help Dora complete the puzzles to earn badges.



Shapes: Learn shapes and more with fun games, quizzes, flashcards and puzzles. With over 30 categories including: shapes, numbers, letters, animals and colours



Numberline frog: An interactive number line. Generates number problems for addition and subtraction.



Little digits: Little Digits displays number characters by detecting how many fingers you put down. Simple addition and subtraction problems.



Hairy Letters: Learn the names and sounds of each letter with the Hairies. Learn to form each letter shape with your finger and play games to blend letter sounds into first words.



Writing numbers lite: Number formation app. Match objects to numeral using 1:1 correspondence.



Mr Thorne does Phonics: Videos and games based on the sounds: a b c d e f ff g h i j k ck ll m n o p qu r s ss t u v w x y z ch sh th ng ai ee igh oa oo oi or ar er ur ow ear ure air