

## 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 the 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. Look at the text features of non-fiction books e.g. sub-headings, questions, bullet points etc.

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

## Phonics

**Word Sort** – children sort real and made up words into two piles. Words could contain a targeted spelling / sound pattern e.g. 'ee', 'oo', 'ar' etc

**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 diagraph (2 letters 1 sound) or trigraph (3 letters 1 sound) e.g.

train      sheep      hill



**Phoneme Spotter** – Look for words containing a given sound pattern e.g. words with the 'ai' sound and make a list.

**LSCWC** – Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check. Good for memorising how to spell words. Practise writing the spellings in the context of sentences.

## Writing

**Sentence frames:** use to develop understanding of simple sentence structures, e.g.

Boys	like	writing.
Dogs	like	.....
Cats	like	.....

Ensure children have plenty of regular practice and that they use the full stop!!! Variation through omitting different parts of the sentence.

**Transforming sentences:** oral changing of the words in well-known sentences, e.g. Jack and Jill went up the hill can become Molly and Math went along the path etc.

**Combine:** Write sentences on card. Cut in half. Encourage children to re-construct sentences. Does sentence have capital letter at beginning and full stop at end? Does it make sense?

**Perfect punctuation?** Write short piece of text with full stops in wrong place. Read. Does it sound write? Alter by reading and listening to hear when the sentence is complete.

**Punctuation spotter:** Highlight all the capital letters and full stops in a short piece of text. Make a chart "When do we use capital letters?" Extend to question marks. Children indicate which is the question, e.g. The owl is sitting on the branch. Is the owl sitting on a branch? Try and vary the start of the questions so that they don't always start with the obvious question words, e.g. who, when, where etc.

**How many questions:** Give pairs of children objects/pictures/photographs etc.

Using five fingered hand with one question word on each finger, e.g. who? what? when? where? why? Children ask as many questions as they can about the object/picture.

**Rainbow sentences.** Write sentences in different colours – make sure that sentences don't all finish at end of a line.

## Maths

**Shape activity:** At home, or when you are out, look at the surface of shapes. Ask your child – what shape is this plate, this mirror, the bath mat, the tea towel, the window, the door, the red traffic light, and so on. Choose a shape for the week, e.g. a square. How many of these shapes can your child spot during the week, at home and when you are out?

**Secret numbers:** Write the numbers 0 to 20 on a sheet of paper. Ask your child secretly to choose a number on the paper. Then ask him/her some questions to find out what the secret number is, e.g. Is it less than 10? Is it between 10 and 20? Does it have a 5 in it? He / she may answer only yes or no. Once you have guessed the number, it is your turn to choose a number. Your child asks the questions. For an easier game, use numbers up to 10. For a harder game, use only 5 questions, or use bigger numbers.

## Reading Websites

**My Online Reading:** Free colourful books to support children's reading development.

<http://www.myonlinereading.com/index.php>

**Oxford Owl :** Lots of fun printable activities linked to Oxford Reading Tree books

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/welcome-back/for-home/reading-owl/kids-barn/biff-chip-kipper/character-library>

**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>

**Sebastian Swan:** A range of animal based stories and non-fiction texts.

<http://www.sebastianswan.org.uk/>

**Gruffalo website for Infants**

<http://www.gruffalo.com/>

## Phonics Websites

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

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

**BBC Deep Sea Phonics:** Phonics computer game pitched at 3 varying levels of challenge.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play/>

**Letter Planet:** A tablet friendly phonics game looking at 'ch', 'sh' and 'th' digraph.

<http://splash.abc.net.au/res/i/L7855/index.html>

## Writing Websites

**Lists and instructions**

[http://resources.hwb.wales.gov.uk/VTC/lists\\_and\\_instructions/eng/Introduction/default.htm](http://resources.hwb.wales.gov.uk/VTC/lists_and_instructions/eng/Introduction/default.htm)

**Star ships:** Grow your own story from the story planet

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/starship/english/storyplant.shtml>

**Magic Key:** Capital letters

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/magickey/adventures/lug.shtml>

**Magic Key:** Sentence game

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/magickey/adventures/patch\\_game.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/magickey/adventures/patch_game.shtml)

## Maths Websites

**Topmarks:** A range of interactive numeracy games

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

**ICTgames:** Lots of fun and game based maths learning opportunities.

<http://www.ictgames.com/resources.html>

**Primary Games Arena:** Links to different websites appropriate for Year 1 maths

<http://primarygamesarena.com/Years/Year-1>

**4Games:** A range of maths games for 4 to 7 year olds.

<http://games.e4education.co.uk/groupone/#MathsGames>