

Early Reading



Nursery Parent Workshop

Welcome to our Nursery Early Reading Workshop!

We hope you have great fun with us today in Nursery. We have lots of activities for you to engage with and play with your child so that you can see what sorts of things we do on a daily basis. Taking part in our Early Reading Workshop will then help you to support your child's reading and communication at home using some of the ideas you see. The rest of this leaflet tells you about the different activities you can do at home to support your child's reading, writing and understanding.

We hope you learn lots and have fun today!

The Nursery Team

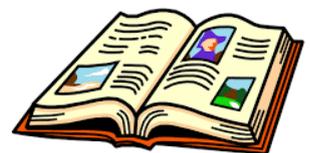


Taking an active interest in your child's learning is one of the best ways you can help your child to do better in school and in life. Learning is not just about what happens in school. Children are learning all the time through what they see, hear and do.

Reading

Initially children will not be able to read the words in the book but that doesn't mean they cannot join in! If you read a book a number of times your child will be able to join in with the repeated words in the story or you could stop for them to fill in the missing word.

Your child will also be able to look at the pictures and think about what is happening to support understanding and storytelling. You can look at the cover picture and discuss the story before you begin.



Talk about what is happening in the story to see if your child has understood what you have read or seen. Ask questions which you can talk about together, for example "where is Little Red Riding Hood going?"

Make sure you plan a quality, quiet time to read together. This could be the ten minutes before bedtime which will also promote special time together.

Writing

Writing has some very strong links to reading; the more stories children hear, the more ideas they will have for writing in their later academic life. Children can't write stories if they don't hear stories! It also gives them some good ideas for mark making and pictures they can draw now.

Through hearing lots of stories, children absorb story book language, - especially from traditional tales - they will hear phrases such as "once upon a time", "happily ever after" and expressions such as "burst into tears" instead of just "cried". Children will also become aware of the different kinds of characters that you meet in a story, and of the kinds of adventures they have.



The children are currently practising the correct formation of the letters in their name. We are also developing the children's letter recognition, phonic awareness and letter formation once they have tuned into sounds around them. We send home some simple sheets so that you know how the children have been taught to write their letters and so that you can help them to practise at home.



Support your child's writing by:

- Letting the children see you write (*e.g. shopping list, note to daddy to tell him that you've gone round to see a friend, post it note on the fridge to buy more milk*)
- Pointing out environmental print - there is print everywhere we look; in shops, in a newspaper, on signs.

Speaking, listening and understanding

Speaking and listening is also a very important part of the early reading and literacy skills your child will develop. In school we teach the children the important skills involved in speaking and listening through activities such as carpet sessions, role play and small world play.

Make sure that that you have some time every day when the television, mobile phone and the computer or tablet are switched off and you just talk. You can talk together about the stories you have shared, thinking about what happened, who the characters were and where they went. You can also discuss places you have visited or people you have seen.

Sometimes we're so busy that communication ends up turning into a list of instructions, but it's so important that we find time to talk to our children rather than just talking at them.



To help your child tune into sounds it would also be helpful to play some listening games such as 'Simon says....' Where your child needs to listen and copy an action. You can also make up silly sentences where each word starts with the same sound as e.g. your child's name. Or even play 'eye spy' to support your child to hear the initial sound in a word.