

Home Learning: Reception

Below are ideas of ways to support your children at home, based on the Early Years curriculum. This is not a tick list of activities- you can pick and choose what works for you. Remember that children of this age are meant to learn in fun and practical ways and should not be sat down with work sheets. Try and build on children's interests and engage them fully in their learning through a range of opportunities. We have also sent a pack home with your child- please use these resources to support your children.

Physical Development

- Make play dough together <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAIAm6BF0fs>
- Put some music on and dance, encouraging the children to explore different movements and develop their muscles.
- Water play in the bath- scooping, pouring and measuring.
- Musical movement games like musical statues
- Building tunnels and dens with blankets/ cushions etc.
- Painting (with paint or if you have a garden with water outside)
- Watch cosmic kids yoga on youtube and explore the different yoga moves together.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Play board games and card games to encourage sharing and turn taking.
- Share stories and encourage discussions.
- Give your children responsibility to help with household chores- mopping the floor, cleaning windows are all great for their physical skills too!
- Read books about feelings and discuss how different things make you feel and how we can handle these feelings- see list 'stories to watch on youtube'

Communication and Language

- Storytelling with homemade puppets- you can use lolly sticks, straws and old socks.
- Singing nursery rhymes and action songs, such as Simon Says.
- Singing heads shoulders knees and toes and leaving out key parts for children to develop their instruction following.
- Play guessing games – such as think of an animal and model giving clues to help your child guess the animal
- Play board games
- <https://wetalkmakaton.org/> - Learn to sign the Makaton Sign of the Week
- Play hotter, colder, getting your child to guide you to something by saying "hotter" when you get closer and "colder" when you move further away.

Literacy

- Share story books and talk about what is happening on each page
- Play lotto games – matching pictures
- Sing Jolly Phonics songs
- Hide an object in a 'mystery bag' and give clues to what might be inside
- Tap out syllables to break up your name on musical instruments
- Play rhyming games- e.g. rhyming funny names, rhyming simple words e.g. fox and box etc.
- Labelling things the children make.
- Mark making in different textures (shaving foam, cornflour, salt etc)
- Initial sound I spy game: "i spy with my little eye something beginning with the sound /s/" etc.
- Finding letters from their name around the house.
- Please see the Reception youtube channel for support in writing and reading with your child (QR code to scan below).

Maths

- Pairing socks
- Playing Snakes and Ladders
- Bigger and Smaller games – describing the 3 Billy Goats Gruff or using Goldilocks
- Add numbers to pegs and then help your child to order them
- Measuring ingredients to cook/ help make dinner
- Sing number songs, such as 5 currant buns or the Everybody Get Up counting song <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aKvgwVAGSgw> (see folder for more)
- Sorting toys by colour or shape
- Sorting coins
- Build train tracks in different shapes
- Build towers from blocks – how many blocks did you use? Can you use the same blocks to build a different tower?
- Go for a shape hunt in your home- discuss 2D and 3D shapes you can see and their differences
- Enjoy some water play in the bath- use old containers and discuss capacity.
- Challenge your children to find items of different lengths and order them.
- Use household objects to explore adding, taking away and halving (splitting things into 2 equal groups)
- Make number cards with your children (1-20). Mess them up and then challenge them to re-order them. Get them to find a certain number of objects to match the number.

Understanding the World

- Use Nature Detectives for lots of exciting activities to do at home: <https://naturedetectives.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/>
- Planting seeds such as cress – and watching them grow
- Look at science experiments for Early Years <https://www.firstdiscoverers.co.uk/early-years-science-activities-eyfs/>
- Observe the weather each day and make a weather chart
- Make a family tree – who is in your family
- Freeze small toys in ice – and work out how to get them out of the ice
- Look for different sorts of ICT in your home eg, microwave, remote control, phone etc
- Watch 'cbeebies: let's celebrate' to learn more about other cultures and religions from children who celebrate them. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/lets-celebrate>
- Discuss the weather and the changes from Winter to Spring.

Expressive Art and Design

- Dancing to music – use scarves to explore movement.
- Sing familiar songs and make up your own words to nursery rhyme tunes.
- Make shakers with different objects in pots- discuss the different noises they each make and the similarities and differences.
- Make your own paint with shaving foam or coloured ice.
- Make props for your favourite story and act it out together.
- Use junk to make constructions- encourage your child to discuss and label these.
- Make a spot the difference with your child, encouraging them to look carefully at 2 pictures and compare.
- Paint, draw and explore how many different creations you can make!