



### **How You Can Help Your Child in Reading**

- Listen to your child read 4 times a week and complete their reading diary - aim for 10 minutes a day
- Log in regularly to check your child's assigned books online <https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/login>
- Encourage your child to read aloud, then ask them the Bug Club questions at the end
- Celebrate points or rewards from Bug Club to motivate them
- Discuss the story together: "What happened first?" Or "How do you think the character feels?"
- Identifying tricky words and phase 3 sounds in words in other storybooks
- Who are the characters?
- What is happening in the story?
- Can you predict what might happen next?
- Encourage your child to retell the story in their own words.

### **Letter Formation & Writing Simple Sentences**

This half term, we will be focusing on the following key areas:

- Continue to form letters and numerals starting and finishing in the right places (correct orientation)
- Writing their own name independently starting with a capital letter (which is bigger than the lowercase letters)
- Saying sentences out-loud before writing them
- Counting the words in a sentence
- Using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops when writing sentences

### **How You Can Help Your Child With Fine Motor Skills and Writing**

- Practise eating with cutlery independently
- Using scissors safely
- Practise with zips, buttons and putting on shoes and socks
- Encourage children to hold their pencil with the tripod grip. Work on their fine motor – see below some effective fine motor exercises:
  - Playing on the monkey bars
  - Squeezing, pinching and rolling playdough
  - Peeling and placing stickers onto a page
  - Pinching/moving small parts
- Encourage your child to speak in a full sentence - this helps when writing sentences
- Sounding out words: encourage your child to sound out words when they are unsure of the spelling. This reinforces their understanding of phonics
- Practise tricky words - identify common 'tricky' words (words that don't follow phonetic rules) and practice them regularly (I, go, to the, no, into, he, she, me, we, be)



### Maths

Number:

- Count 10-20 objects reliably
- Subitise amount to 5 (this is where children recognise amounts without needing to count them)
- Combining two amounts (addition)
- Write and make numbers to 20
- Begin to explore number bonds to 10 (the numbers we can add together to make 10)

Number skills:

- Use the language of more and fewer/less
- Begin to understand and sort objects into pairs
- Begin to identify doubles

### How You Can Help Your Child in Maths

- Counting in daily life situations (eg counting stairs/steps, snacks, toys or spotting numbers and patterns in the environment)
- Practise counting to 20, we use this song in school: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VLxWIHRD4E> (*Let's Count to 20 Song for Kids on Youtube*)
- Play dice games to practise adding numbers to 10 (use fingers to aid addition)
- Play matching games (e.g. snap)
- Identify shapes in the house (circles on clocks, squares in books)
- Use water to explore capacity (full, empty)
- Involve them in cooking (counting ingredients or even helping to measure)
- When tidying up, can they sort their toys by colour, size or type