



How You Can Help Your Child in Reading

- Listen to your child read 4 times a week and complete their reading diary - aim for 10-20 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
- Use the focus sounds and words on the inside cover of their reading book
- Encourage sounding out and then blending
- Discuss the story together: "What happened first?" Or "How do you think the character feels?"
- Practise reading common exception and high frequency words
- Who are the characters?
- What is happening in the story?
- Encourage your child to retell the story in their own words.

Writing

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

- Sentences with correct capital letters and a closing punctuation mark (*full stop, exclamation mark, question mark*)
- Using 'and' and 'because' to link ideas together.
- *Using the spelling rule for adding -s or -es as the plural marker for nouns and the third person singular marker for verbs.*

How You Can Help Your Child in Writing

- Read and write common exception words
- Learn to spell the days of the weeks
- Name the letters of the alphabet in sequence
- 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. Flashcards or online games can be helpful.
- Practise letter formation - keep it short and positive
- Encourage your child to hold the pencil in a tripod grip with good seated posture.
- Write together - shopping lists, birthday cards, letters to family
- Incorporate writing into play- set up a post office/shop where writing is part of pretend play
- Practise writing in full sentences, remembering a capital letter, spaces between words and a full stop at the end
- Use online tools and games-BBC Bitesize, PhonicsPlay, Teach Your Monster to Read all include phonics and early writing games



Maths

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

- Counting to 50
- Length and height
- Mass and volume

How You Can Help Your Child in Maths

- Count everything - stairs, buttons, apples in the fruit bowl.
- 1 more & 1 less - can they tell you one more & 1 less than a given number?
- Jump & Count - Jump, clap, or hop while counting aloud to 50.
- Build to 50 - Use Lego, blocks, or coins to build towers of 10, then count them altogether to 50.
- Who's Taller? - Compare family members, toys, or plants. Use language like *taller*, *shorter*, *tallest*.
- Build & Measure Towers - Build towers with blocks and compare heights. Count how many blocks tall each one is.
- Heavy or Light? Guess First! - Hold two objects (e.g. apple vs sponge). Guess, then test. Use words like *heavier* and *lighter*.
- Water Pour Party (Bath or Sink Time!) - Pour water between cups, bottles, and jugs. Ask: "Which holds more? Which holds less?"
- Kitchen Scale Explorers - Weigh ingredients or toys using a scale. Compare: "Which is heavier? How can we tell?"