



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 (*what was the story about? What was your favourite part? Who was the story about? What do you think would happen next? How do you think the character felt?*)
- Celebrate points or rewards from Bug Club to motivate them
- Identifying tricky words and phase 3 sounds in words in other storybooks
- Encourage your child to retell the story in their own words
- Encourage sounding out and blending the sounds
- Encourage children to point to the sounds (digraphs = 2 letter sounds and trigraphs = 3 letter sounds) independently

Letter Formation & Writing Simple Sentences

This half term, we will be strengthening children's ability to:

- Consistently 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)
- Say full sentences out-loud before writing them (especially writing full sentences like "*I can see....It is...*")
- Count the words in a sentence and orally rehearse it before writing
- Using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops when writing sentences
- Reading their sentence back to check they have all the words

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

- Encourage eating with cutlery (including cutting their own food) independently
- Using scissors safely (placing their fingers in the correct position)
- Practise with zips, buttons and putting on shoes and socks
- Encourage children to hold their pencil with the tripod grid. 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



Maths

Number:

- Count beyond 20 independently
- Use the add (+), subtract (-) and equals (=) symbols when writing number sentences
- Using language such as altogether, whole, part
- Select, rotate and manipulate shapes for a purpose
- Be able to spot the pattern of even and odd numbers
- Identifying double facts
- Be able to share and group a number (within 10) of items
- Creating maps from familiar/story situations

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 3D shapes in the house (ice cubes, cereal boxes, footballs)
- Use water to explore capacity (full, empty)
- Involve them in cooking (counting ingredients or even helping to measure)
- Drawing maps from stories you have read together