



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 on Bug Club 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 sounds in words in other storybooks (e.g. the 'f' in The Gruffalo)
- 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 & Building CVC Words (3-sound words)

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

- Show a preference for a dominant hand
- Have an effective pencil grip (tripod)
- Begin to form letters starting and finishing in the right places (correct orientation)
- Recognising and writing their own name starting with a capital letter

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

- Support and practise eating with cutlery independently
- Practise 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 exercises to build hand strength:
 - Playing on the monkey bars
 - Squeezing, pinching and rolling playdough
 - Peeling and placing stickers onto a page
 - Pinching/moving small parts
 - Squeeze clothes pegs open and closed
 - Squeeze spray bottles
- 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)
- Colouring activities



Maths

- Match and sort items by shape, colour, size or purpose
- Copy, continue and create simple repeating patterns
- Recognise quantities 1-3 without counting (subitising)
- Count 5 objects reliably
- Use comparative words such as more and fewer (big, bigger, biggest, small, smaller, smallest)
- Recognise numerals 1-5 and match the relating amount
- Identify circles, triangles, squares and rectangles

How You Can Help Your Child in Maths

- Singing nursery rhymes and songs (eg 5 Little Ducks)
- Counting in daily life situations (eg how many plates are on the table, spotting numbers in the environment)
- Play matching games (find two things that are the same around the house, match socks into pairs)
- Sort toys by colour, size or type
- Bath time capacity play – talk about full/empty
- Find shapes in the kitchen – circle clock, triangle toast