

EARLY READING

JANUARY 2022

Launchpad for Literacy

Launchpad for Literacy is all about children, the skills they have and the skills they need for all aspects of literacy, in particular, reading.

There are 2 main areas we work on in school—visual (what you see) and auditory (what you hear).

Auditory—what you can hear

Before children learn to read, they need to be able to identify different sounds in the environment. This helps them ‘tune’ in to things that sound the same and things that sound different. E.g. birds singing, car engines, people chatting.

Some games you can play at home to support this are:

Body sounds e.g. clicking, humming, clapping, tapping—can they copy what you do without watching you?

Sound walks when you are out and about—name the things you can hear.

Sound games on your tablet:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/eyfs-listening-skills/zbc4y9q>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qd6wZHUDCUg>

Visual —what you can see

Some letters look very similar to each other such as **b, p, d, q** **o, a, c** **m, n, r, h** **i, j, l, t** **v, w**

Before children start to look at letter shapes, they need to be able to see the same and different in everyday objects. e.g.

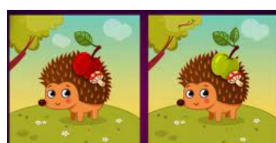
Same: They are both penguins, they both have 2 eyes, they both have an orange beak.



Different: One has a blue scarf, one has a pink scarf, one is facing forward, one is facing to the side.

Some games you can play at home to support this are:

Spot the difference pictures



Find the hidden objects e.g. Where’s Wally?

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Sequential memory—remembering things in order

When children learn to read they need to remember a sequence of sounds in the correct order e.g. h-o-p, ch-i-n, f-r-o-g.

At school we develop this skill using everyday objects.



Pass me the car, teddy and ball (in the correct order).

Can you get me a pencil a rubber and some scissors please.

Some games you can play at home to support this are:

Give your child a list of 2 objects to get for you e.g. a pen and a shoe. Build this up until they can remember 5 or 6 objects in the right order.

Make a traffic jam with 3 different cars in the correct order.

Talk in sounds e.g.

get your h-a-t

Brush your t-ee-th

Touch your h-a-n-d

Can you j-u-m-p

All of these activities help children with blending to read e.g. s-u-n = sun.

In their RWI lessons (phonics) they will learn to Fred Talk.

Fred is a frog who can only speak in sounds. We play Fred Games with the children every day and you can do this at home.

Once your child is really good at this, you can make it harder by choosing longer words e.g.

Find your j-u-m-p-e-r. Get your h-air-b-r-u-sh. Would you like w-ee-t-a-b-i-x or sh-r-e-dd-ies?



