

At BBeebies we support children on their journey to reading by being a read-a-lot, talk-a-lot and sing-a-lot nursery! Our weekly phonics sessions focus on learning new sounds, discriminating environmental sounds, listening games and practising our segmenting and blending skills.

Did you know?

You as parents/carers are your child's first and most important teachers. By making story time part of your daily routine you will give your child a flying start as they become early readers. Check out some of the ideas below for some fun ways to boost your child's reading skills before they start school.



BBeebies Nursery

A nurturing environment where children learn, play and thrive.



What is blending?

Oral blending is when children can HEAR the individual sounds (phonemes) in words and then push those sounds together to form the whole word. This is a skill developed in Phase 1. You say the individual sounds and children merge those sounds to say the whole word.

Play games like Simon Says. You say "can you stand u-p?" or "can you c-l-a-p your hands?" and they blend the sounds to perform the action.

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Word Pong!

What do you need? Plastic cups, a ball and some words to practice.



Have your child try to throw or bounce the ball into the cups. Each time the ball goes into a cup, they have to attempt to read the word inside.

Model Blending

Model blending sounds as much as you possibly can.

- "I need my c-oa-t". "coat"
- "I'm making a cup of t-ea". "tea"
- "I can see a 'b-ir-d". "bird"

You can see if after a while they can naturally blend the sounds they hear rather than you.

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Washing Line!



Create a washing line at child height and collect some pegs, bits of paper and a pen.

Help your child to sound out and write simple words, or their name, and pop it on the line in the correct order. Model sounding out the word to read back

PHONICS PEG HUNT

Write some letters on a set of pegs and hide them around your house or garden. Write the letters on a piece of card. Ask your child to hunt for the pegs and match them to the letters on the card.



Emily Palmer

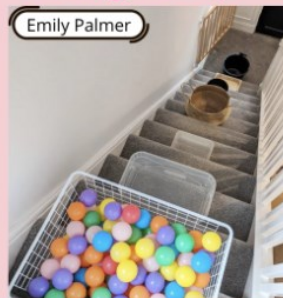
You Will Need: •A piece of card •A bag of pegs •A permanent marker

Say It, Throw It

Emily Palmer

What You'll Need:

- Baskets and/or boxes
- some balls
- stairs
- permanent marker
- (optional)



Instructions:

Put some baskets on the stairs. Write some numbers or letters on your balls (or just use the colours like we did.) Ask your child to say the sound/number/colour and get them to throw it down the stairs and see if it lands in a basket.

Always supervise on stairs

Reading together!

When you read together at home (bedtime stories or school reading books), talk about the story together and encourage your child to think about any new vocabulary they may have not heard before. Ask them if they can retell the story, or parts of the story, as you are reading. Question what is happening in the story and what may happen next.



Question examples:

I wonder why the mouse told the snake he was meeting a Gruffalo...
Where do you think the wolf is going to go next?

What was your favourite part of the story? What happened after that?

I wonder what the word 'vehicle' means...

Do you remember what happened at the beginning of the story?

Model time conjunctions like: first, next, after that...

WHAT'S IN THE BAG PHONICS GAME



YOU NEED A BAG AND OBJECTS FROM AROUND THE HOUSE

THE ADULT SAYS IN MY BAG YOU WILL FIND...

THE ADULT THEN SOUNDS OUT ONE OF THE ITEMS

I.E A S-P-OO-N

THE CHILDREN THEN LISTENS AND BLENDS IT AND TELLS YOU WHAT IT IS. IT'S A SPOON

REPEAT FOR NEXT OBJECT

FOOTBALL PHONICS

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- GOAL POSTS OR GOAL CHALKED ONTO A WALL
- STICKY TAC OR TAPE
- LIGHTWEIGHT FOOTBALL
- STICKY BACKED VELCRO
- SEVERAL 6CM CIRCLES OF CARD (LAMINATED)
- WHITEBOARD MARKER



50 FANTASTIC IDEAS FOR PHONICS

WHAT TO DO:

ON SOME OF YOUR CIRCLES OF CARD WRITE A LETTER SOUND. STICK THESE AROUND THE GOAL MOUTH.

THE CHILDREN TAKE IT IN TURNS TO 'SHOOT' THE BALL INTO THE GOAL.

BEFORE THEY CAN KICK THE BALL THEY HAVE TO SHOUT OUT A WORD THAT BEGINS WITH ONE OF THE LETTERS ON THE CARDS AROUND THE GOAL.

ADD A BIT OF CHALLENGE BY ASKING THE CHILDREN TO COME UP WITH A WORD THAT HAS THE LETTER SOUND AT THE END OR IN THE MIDDLE.

Don't forget to make use of our Family Library!