**Phonics Ideas at home**

**We have taught all of phase 2 and are half way through phase 3 sounds.**

**Phonics Play –** Parents can use phonics play free of charge for the following games. You can register for a small fee which will give you full access.[**www.phonicsplay.co.uk**](http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk)

Buried Treasure

Picnic on Pluto

Pick a Picture

**Monster Phonics**

You can buy an app for the iPad only. It costs £2.99. This is the scheme we follow in school.

**Oxford Owl**

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/> This is a free site to access books for reading and phonics activities.

**Other activities you can do:**

1. 2-minute challenge – pick a phoneme/digraph. Find as many items from around the house start with that sound.
2. Play rhyming games – how many words can rhyme with sat etc
3. Kim’s game – place phonemes on a tray and cover it, remove a phoneme - what it missing?
4. I spy – but use phonemes rather than letter names.
5. Phoneme or HFW/Tricky word detectives – can you spot them in a book and how many times did you find them?

**Fun phonics activities**

**1. Rainbow hop letter sounds game**

Simply use coloured paper, one die and a marker to create a stepping-stone for every letter of the alphabet or however many you have room for. You can even include “ch” and “sh” pieces for more advanced learners. For the game, your child will roll the die, take the allotted number of hops and say and pronounce the letter that they land on. Perfect for playing with siblings or parents or friends, this active game will help your little one learns both letter sounds and counting.

**2. Letter sounds race**

Place letter magnet opposite any magnetic surface—magnet board, the fridge or easel. While your kiddo stands near the magnet board, pronounce a letter sound, have them run to the letter magnets, pick out the corresponding letter and place it on the magnet board. You can help your younger child learn new letter sounds by asking them to find and place the letter, pronounce the letter sound and ask them to repeat it.

**3. Phonic photo scavenger hunt**

Have your child create a photo album, either physical or digital, with a photo of an item for every letter sound: “a” for anthill to “z” for zoo. This is an easy way to keep the learning flowing while on vacation or on the go. This can be done again and again to learn new sounds like “ch” or “sh.”

**4. Spin & rhyme**

Use a paper and clothes hanger to easily create rhyming words (e.g., cat, pat, mat, sat). This exercise also helps your little one learn how to break down words and identify word families.

**5. Erase the sound**

Your little artist will love this simple and visually stimulating activity. Draw a picture on a whiteboard or chalkboard, name individual letters and have your child identify and erase items in the picture that start with that letter.

**6. Mystery bag**

Place three objects within a bag—like a ball, bug and button for the letter “b”—have your child name each item, and guess the “mystery letter” that unites all of the objects. If you have more than one little one learning phonics, you can have them fill a bag for the others with objects around the house to have the others guess.

**7. Kaboom alphabet**

Using just lolly sticks and a cup, each player will pull a stick out of the cup and say the sound of the letter written on the stick they draw. Then, they get to keep that stick. But “KABOOM” is written on one stick and every time it’s pulled, the unlucky player has to put all their sticks back in the cup. You can even set a timer.

**8. Say two words**

When you say two words that begin with the same sound, they should stand up as fast as they can, but stay seated if the words do not begin with the same sound. If playing with more children, you can create an elimination system, so that there’s one clear winner determined.

**9. Monster names**

Have children replace the first letter of their name with the letter “M,” and add ‘mad’ to the beginning. For example, Ashely would become Mad Monster Mashlyn. The kiddos can then stomp around, growl and play monsters with each other. This simple approach for reinforcing phonetic sounds can obviously be expanded and modified for further practice (e.g., Cool Cat Cashlyn, Funny Fish Fashlyn, etc.).

**10. Smack the letter**

Children will love getting to use a flyswatter/wooden spoon to hit the letters you write on sticky notes and pronounce for them to identify. You can pick the letter sounds they most need to work on. If playing with a peer, this game can become a race. Two to three children can play for points to see who can reach 10 first. It can also be played tournament-style, if you’re working with a larger group.

**11. Phonics I-Spy discovery bottle**

Fill a large juice bottle with a variety of small items that start with various letters, using rice or sand as a filler for the remaining space. To play, use an alphabet deck or phonics clip cards to pick a letter and have your child shake the bottle and hunt for the item with the corresponding beginning letter.