

Parents Literacy Workshop

Phonics

At Leasowes we teach phonics using Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised. Little Wandle is an interactive way to support children in learning how to read and write. To supplement Little Wandle, we use the Jolly Phonics resource as a multi-sensory, synthetic approach for our learners. Teaching children to use phonics helps them to start to read quickly. Here are some games and activities that we play during a phonics lesson. We don't do all of the activities in one lesson but we will hopefully be giving you some ideas for things that you could do at home.

Alphabet songs- There are 44 phonic sounds that we teach as well as the letter names. We teach the children 2 alphabet songs in school. We do this so that the children can learn the names of each letter. We sing a song from the 'British Council Learn English Kids' website.

Action game- this game helps to develop their segmenting and blending. Segmenting is where we break the word down into the individual sounds and blending is where we squash those sounds back together to read. They are both tricky skills that the children need to practise regularly. Segment words such as r-u-b, t-a-p, h-u-g, j-u-m-p, j-o-g, h-o-p, b-r-u-sh.

Choose an object- Again this game practises those segmenting and blending skills and could be adapted to use at home with items around the house. Use a selection of objects for children to find when segmented by an adult. You could

even swap roles and the child segments and the adult blends. Use objects like pen, tin, peg, doll etc.

Revisit sounds- We start every session by recapping the sounds that have already been taught. Sounds are also called phonemes and we will use the vocabulary 'sounds' and 'phonemes' when asking children to produce each letters sound. We also use the term 'grapheme' with the children, which means the visual representation of the sound. The phoneme is the sound each letter makes and grapheme is how that sound is written. We ask the children to tell us the sound and show us the action. You could do this using flashcard with the sound or quickly flicking through the phonics book.

CVC Bingo- During a phonics lesson we may write simple CVC words or play a bingo game where the children have to identify the given word on their mat. This again practises their segmenting and blending skills.

Tricky words- These are words which we cannot segment and blend so please just encourage your child to read these words by sight. You could stick post it notes around the house for your child to read or play a splat game.

Reading

Home readers- We send home a book that is matched to your child's phonics knowledge. In school children will be reading decodable books during their guided reading session.

Children get to select a library book to read at home for pleasure. Developing your child's love of reading and vocabulary is important for future academic success.

Writing

This term we have been further developing the children's fine motor skills. We have engaged in some exciting activities such as dough disco and squiggle and wiggle into writing.

At home write for pleasure and a range of purposes. In Reception we teach the children to write in print. When we teach the digraphs (2 letters together making one sound) e.g. th then we will teach the children to join the two letters.

Make writing practise fun by using chalk outside, writing in sand, shaving foam, with paintbrushes and water (it does not have to be a pencil and paper).

Useful website for phonics activities:

- British council learn English kids- Alphabet song. Other versions can be on YouTube.
- Phonics play website- some activities are free for parents to access.
- Cbeebies-'Alphablocks'
- Espresso
- Education City

All the Letters came to Tea

A B C D E F G all the letters
came to tea,

H I J K L M N the food was
quite delicious.

O P Q R S T U,

V and **W** they came too.

X and **Y** ate all the pie,
and **Z** washed up the dishes.

