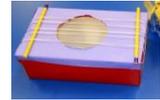




Fun with PHONICS - How you can help at home...



- Identify and copy sounds you hear e.g. dogs barking, ringtones, washing machine spinning.
 - Have fun copying animal sounds, or making imaginary sounds like a dragon
 - Let your child enjoy experimenting with sounds different objects make, e.g. banging or tapping pots, pans with metal spoons or wooden or plastic spoons



- Play with real and home-made musical instruments. Make up rhythms.
 - Explore different ways of making sounds and playing the instruments
 - Listen to each other playing
 - Try and copy playing each other's rhythms (keep it simple)

- Talk with your children when they are mark-making and painting, commenting on the movements and shapes they are making.



- Make different sounds with your bodies, e.g. marching, stamping, splashing to a beat
- Listen to and join in with your children re-enacting familiar stories



- Enjoy singing songs and rhymes. Play with words and make up your own rhymes.
 - Help your children learn a bank of rhymes through hearing them over and over again
 - Enjoy sharing books so your children grow to see them as a source of pleasure and interest
 - Have fun making up new nonsense words that rhyme. It does not have to be a real word as long as it rhymes, e.g. ham, fam, sam, lamb, tam



- Read books with rhymes and jingles. Make up your own, e.g. juicy jelly, sizzling sausages, chunky chips.
 - Choose books from the library with words that rhyme (Julia Donaldson books are good for that!)
 - Use jingles now and again when you are talking to your children. *Can you hear that buzzy bee? Shall we eat some crunchy crisps?*



- Use your voice to make sound effects, e.g. 'weeee' coming down the slide, 'moo' said the cow.
 - Or use words to describe the sound effects 'splish splash' through puddles, 'drip drip' went the leaky tap
 - Introduce words that describe texture, e.g. 'frothy' milkshake, 'smooth' fur



- Say your messages aloud when you are writing. Then the children will understand that words have meaning and they will copy you when they are writing.
 - Encourage your children to make sounds as they are playing, e.g. 'b b b b' as they bounce a ball.



'Jolly phonics' materials can be used to support 'Letters and Sounds'. They provide a song and action to help remind the children of the sound of each phoneme. 'Jolly Phonics' can be used at home as well as in school.



We hope that these ideas help. As always, if you need any further support please come and ask any member of the Nursery/Reception team.

Thank you for your continued support in helping your child learn ☺