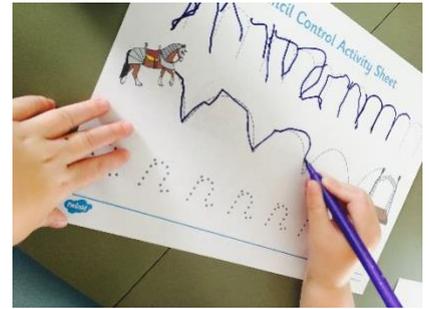




Here is a list of different activities which you can do at home which would really benefit your child.

### Literacy / Phonics

- Name writing practise- can you find different things to write your name in, such as sand, paint, glitter?
- Fine motor skills and pencil control is really important- drawing wiggly lines and getting children to trace different objects/patterns is a good way of improving this.
- Each day in Reception we read at least one story. Reading a story at home and then asking them questions to check their comprehension will really help improve their reading and understanding.



### Phonics

- Practise initial sounds we have previously learnt- this includes: saying the sound, writing the sound and identifying different objects beginning with the sound.
- You could go on a hunt around the house to find objects beginning with that letter.

### Maths

At this stage in Reception, we are looking at numbers within 10. Here are some ideas to help them consolidate their knowledge of this:

- Finding different objects around their house and counting them- 3 pencils, 2 sweets etc.
- Watching number blocks episodes of BBC iPlayer- can they make a representation of the number blocks using cubes or lego?

- Singing different number songs- 2 Little Dicky Birds, 3 Blind Mice etc- I can email these videos out or they can be found on YouTube.
- Using Purple Mash to count different objects.
- Practise writing different numbers and counting different objects to go with the number.



## RE

- Have a discussion with parents/carers about why they chose their name, what other names did they consider? Talk about their parents/carers names and other important people's names. What does their surname mean?
- -Have a go at writing their names and surnames- can they make it look pretty with glitter/colours/drawings?

## Outdoor Learning

This is a fun way of learning for your child which is really important for their development. If you have any messy play items at home (shaving foam/gel, paint, a water tray with different colours to put in or glitters, then this is really great for experimenting with and using their different senses to explore. I will include some different ideas for messy play below for at home.



Other ideas for outdoor learning include:

- Go on a nature walk, what can they see/smell/hear in their garden, local park?
- Minibeast hunt.

- Making a den using sticks and leaves.
- Planting seeds and watching them grow.
- Make a bird feeder.

### Expressive Arts and Design

We have been encouraging the children to give meaning to the creations they make so that they are purposeful, such as using paper plates to make faces, or making monsters or animals using toilet roll tubes. These do require modelling from an adult/older sibling but is a really fun activity for you both to do.



Drawing is also a good way of improving pencil control, and we have been encouraging children to colour between the lines neatly and really think about their colour choices.

- Draw a picture of your house and family.
- Draw round yours/someone else's hand.
- Draw round different objects/stencils.

### Communication and Language

From the start of Reception, we have been encouraging all the children to talk in full sentences rather than giving single word answers, so would greatly appreciate it if you carried this on at home.

Other things you can do:

- Talk about the weather and changes within it.
- Make up stories and act them out to you.
- Ask them open questions- 'how', 'why', 'when'...
- Play Simon Says- during our Maths Meetings we use position language to find the Frog. You could say 'Simon Says go under the table/next to the lamp/up the stairs.
- Have a conversation about something that interests them, such as dinosaurs or fairies. Talk about what they know, how they know it, what their favourite is.

Physical Development

Fine motor skills are really important in helping build children's muscles in their hands and fingers. This helps them to write, grip, do buttons and zips and draw.

- Using construction like lego to build things. If they struggle picking up and building with the small blocks, start off with the bigger ones.
- Jigsaw puzzles.
- Practising doing their zips and shoelaces- it is unlikely they will be able to do these independently, but it helps their fine motor skills and encourages them to be independent.
- Using scissors to cut the grass.
- Playdough and dough disco- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i-lfzeG1aC4>

Understanding the World

- Talk about the weather and seasons and what differences they notice, which is their favourite and why?
- Dig in the soil, what can they find, can they identify different insects and find a fact out about them?
- Look at the differences and similarities between leaves off different trees.
- Do some baking or cooking with your child, talk about how the food cooks and healthy foods.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Children love getting involved in small tasks that help out. This could be helping to clean by sweeping up using a dustpan and brush or using an old toothbrush to clean some dirty shoes.

- Getting them involved in cooking as previously mentioned is great, and they can help wash up afterwards too as a way of learning daily routines.
- They should begin to practice more independence like getting dressed and washing/drying themselves. At school we encourage the children to put on their own coats and try doing/undoing their own buttons on their cardigans.
- More than ever, it is important to talk to your child about their feelings and emotions. Get them to explain why they feel this way and what might make them better. Can they draw a picture representing this? The following videos explain feelings well.  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/pshe-early-years-foundation-stage-ks1-feeling-better/zm2st39>
- Reinforcing good behaviours is really important too, so have a conversation about good behaviours at home and how these are similar/different to at school.