

## Nursery Home Learning

### Reading/Phonics

Your child has been learning to read in daily phonics lessons. We use the Tower Hamlets Letters and Sounds program which introduces new letter sounds 1 by 1. The order of teaching Phase 2 is **Set 1:** s, a, t, p, **Set 2:** i, n, m, d, **Set 3:** g, o, c, k, **Set 4:** ck, e, u, r, **Set 5:** h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss. Once each new letter sound is introduced we introduce the simple words that can be read using only the letters that have been taught. For example once 'd' has been taught all these words can be read: it, is, sit, sat, pit, tip, pip, sip, an, in, nip, pan, pin, tin, tan, nap, am, man, mam, mat, map, Pam, Tim, Sam, Dad, and, sad, dim, dip, din, did, Sid.

Children should be able to blend the sounds and say the word if you sound it out to them (in 'Robot Talk'- s-a-p). They should be able to identify the first, middle and last sound they can hear, and they should be able to read them. Please remember to use all lower case if you make flash cards, or build words out of magnetic letters or single letter cards. In Nursery we only teach children to write lower case letters (except when they write their name).

You can practice blending and segmenting simple words by playing games like Simon Says (ex: 'Put your hands on your b-a-ck')

There are lots of games online to support early reading; <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>, <http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-2-games.html>, [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk).

If you want to read books designed to support early reading we recommend 'pink level' Oxford Reading Tree books.

### Writing

If you want to practise writing with your child you could label the house, sounding sound the objects and sticking post-it notes on them. You could 'play school' and have them teach you a letter sound they have done in phonics. If they write their first name confidently you could teach them their surname, or to write all the family's names, or to write their address. They could send a post card to school or a school friend. You could keep a simple 'home-school

diary', reading record, home learning record. They could make a TV schedule of their favourite programs, what time and what happened. If they are not confidently writing their name please continue to practise this every day.

## Maths

We have been focusing on the Space, Shape and Measure part of the maths curriculum as it is the most fun and experimental. If you would like to build on our learning about time you could make your own sun dial or sand timer. Or discuss the home based daily routine, checking the clock or your watch with them regularly. Please ask them how they know what time it is, and encourage 'time order words' such as, 'first, last, next, then, before and after'. We have been making our own scales to measure weight (building a simple see saw to compare the children) or making a 'bucket balance' using a coat hanger. We have also been measuring height and length with non-standard units of measure (try measuring with blocks, Duplo, hands or feet).



## Topic

Please get creative or scientific, we have or will cover all these topics; Electricity, Magnets and Metal, Inside My Body, Robots, London, Traditional Tales (Goldilocks, Jack and the Beanstalk, etc), Sea Life, Growing Plants...

It is really easy to make playdough or 'moon sand' and there are lots of very simple cooking recipes for children online. Following instructions, weighing and measuring are all skills children should practise regularly. Spreading things on to bread, cutting string, thread or spaghetti with scissors, and chopping food are all fun, meaningful, fine motor activities.

Please encourage your children to do simple tasks for themselves as much as possible (zips, buttons, cleaning, sorting etc).