

Reception Phonics workshop - 25/09/19

Suggestions for supporting Phonics at home:

- Set time aside for you and your child to complete activities uninterrupted and in a quiet place
- Try to carry out activities when your child is feeling refreshed and willing to have a go at them
- Listen for different sounds around your environments - birds singing, the rubbish truck driving around, a knock at the door... Differentiate the types of sounds you and your child can hear. Are they loud? Soft? Whereabouts can you hear them? How often? Can they recreate any of the noises they can hear?
- Practise saying the individual sounds 'm' (emphasise saying it so that the sound is being stretched - 'mmmmm', practise singing it, saying it softly etc.
- Go on a sound hunt together - how many objects can you find that begin with the sound (m)? 'mat, mirror, mouse, microphone, microwave, mantelpiece...' Practise saying the name of the objects you found, emphasising the initial sound - **mat**, **mirror**, **mouse**.
- Have a go with forming the letters - not just using pen and paper. Get imaginative using lots of different media, i.e. mark make in dried rice, shaving foam, flour, sand, use playdough to roll with and manipulate into letter shapes. Think how tricky you found it to hold a pen to correctly form a letter sound... By manipulating materials like play dough, using tools such as tweezers, the children are steadily strengthening their finger muscles to get ready to write. Provide lots of opportunities for them to do this at home!
- Create 'silly sentences' using some basic alliteration - 'Mummy's pet monkey climbed the massive mountain and ate marmalade.'
- Share rhymes and rhythmic stories together. Can you hear the rhythm as the story's being read? What words are rhyming? Can you think of your own rhyming pairs?
- Create time for bedtime stories, story times throughout the day. Can your children identify any of the sounds within words from the books?
- Play 'I spy', 'Chinese Whispers' and 'Simon says' - break down simple three letter words: 'b-a-t' What was the word I was thinking of? 'Simon is telling you to 'h-o-p.'