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## Practical activities to support reading, spelling and writing <br> EA Literacy Service 2019-2020



## Objectives



* To provide a brief overview of the aim of additional support and the role of a classroom assistant
* A overview of dyslexia type difficulties
*What is reading
* The alphabet
\% Supporting reading
* Supporting spelling and writing
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## The aim of extra support:

- Give children access to the mainstream curriculum (what is being taught in the classroom). Act as a "bridge" for the child.
- Develop children's independence and problem solving abilities. Let the child take responsibility for their learning. Avoid doing it for them.

A child "glued or velcroed" to a C.A. will prevent the child from becoming independent and self sufficient.

## The role of the classroom/learning support assistant

- 'A good learning support assistant will offer the tools to help the child to succeed.'
- Work alongside the teacher either supporting the whole class or assigned to individual children with special needs.
- May be involved with record keeping, assessment, modification of, or provision of, teaching and learning materials.



## Memory

## Acquiring Retaining Recalling





## How do we support a weak working memory?

-Small chunks of information

- Making it memorable
- Engaging two or more senses simultaneously
-Connect it to something they already know
- Ask the questions to support understanding
- 'Self talk’
- Rehearsal
-Repeat


## Working Memory

Working Memory is the ability to work with information

A strong Working Memory is paramount for success in our daily lives

A strong Working Memory is imperative in our fast paced world.

Working Memory is the number 1 indicator of learning ability, far greater than IQ.

## Memory capacity in primary school


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## Using multisensory methods to support reading: engaging the senses simultaneously



Sight, touch and sound to connect letters with sounds


Using two fingers air writing : motor memory sight and sound


Word building using colour coded tiles


Read it, Build it, Write it


Tap it out


Words on a story stick


Word in a shared story

## What is reading?



## What is reading?

The Simple View of Reading


## How is phonological awareness and phonics taught in schools?

- Jolly phonic
- Letterland (Story based approach)
- Letters and Sounds (UK national curriculum)
- Linguistic Phonics
- The CSP (Complete spelling programme)
- THRASS (Teaching handwriting reading and spelling skills)
- Sound Linkage


Letterland

## ReadWrite cspspelilng and language prograuMe



## Learning to read is a complex process

Early intervention is critical especially when there is evidence that phonological awareness been slow to develop in the early years

Reading consists of ..... Word Recognition:

Phonemic awareness
Phonics
Fluency (Sight vocab)
Language Comprehension
$\checkmark$ Vocabulary
$\checkmark$ Comprehension

```
Early Years
Learner Support Handbook
```

```
Newcomer Childre
Looked After Children (LAC)
```

Vision

| Hearing |
| :--- |
| Speech, Lo |

Sensory and Motor Development
Social, Emotional and Behaviour
Transtions int the Eaty Years

Fostered in an environment of love of books, words and stories

## Readers draw on four cueing systems to make sense and understand what they are reading

Semantic Cues: Using the pupil's existing background knowledge and experiences. e.g. The monkey ate a ............ what is the pupil most likely to predict from their own understanding?

Grapho-phonemic Cues: Ability to match a letter/letters to particular sound

Syntactic Cues: Knowledge of the grammatical structure, rules and patterns of language. The cat has five kitten. 'this does not make sense and should be kittens. Does the text sound right.

Pragmatic Cues: Awareness of the social/cultural purpose of the words e.g. She turned on the ............... as it was cold outside (likely to be heating.... as this is our cultural norm)

## Reading Cue Cards to support reading strategies

## Reading Strategy

I can use the
punctuation to help me.
? $\|^{\prime \prime} \ldots 1$,

## Reading Strategy

I can read on to see if the word makes sense in the sentence.

Fast forward


## Reading Strategy

I can use the pictures to help
me.


## Reading Strategy

I can go back and read the word or sentence
 again.

Rewind

## Reading Strategy

I can chop the word up into syllables.
un der stand
'Understand'


## Reading Strategy

I can think about what might happen in the book.


## Reading Strategy

I can look for smaller words I might know.

teacher

## Reading Strategy

I can think about what is happening and make a picture in my head.

## Reading Strategy

I can use words around me to help me out.


## Reading Strategy

I can ask questions to help with my reading if I don't understand.


## Alphabetical knowledge

- English is based on an alphabetic principle (26 letters of the alphabet, approximately 44 sounds).
- Children with literacy difficulties often have difficulties with remembering sequences.
- Alphabet Arc

- What activities could you do with the alphabet arc? Work in pairs.


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## Picture cues for the alphabet

| $\because \mathrm{a}$ | ¢ ${ }_{\text {\% }}$ | $\begin{array}{ll}8 & 9 \\ \end{array}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| \% ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | V k | S | Alpha to Omega visuals |
| MII d | * 1 | एT t |  |
| FAl $e$ | - m | $\square u$ |  |
| ( f | $\square \mathrm{n}$ | 0 V |  |
| 9 | (a) 0 | (0) W |  |
| (1) h | (1) $p$ | 旡 $x$ |  |



Using flash cards to support initial sounds and beginning blends


## Start with a-g




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Lay out : a beginning
z ending m middle
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กภ

## Lay out only m



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## Other alphabet activities

- Block fitting
- Free writing in sand
- Dot to dots
- Jigsaw


- Missing letter: abcd _fghljkI_nopqrstvuwxyz (marked)
Missing letter: abcdfghljkInopqrstvuwxyz (unmarked)
- Using lower and upper case letters
- What next cards
- Wordshark games

WORDSHARGD

| $\begin{aligned} & \mathrm{ab} \\ & \mathrm{fg}_{-} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline b c_{-} d e_{-} \\ & h i_{\_} \text {jk_ } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | mn_no_ |
|  | $\begin{array}{ll} \text { pq_ } & \text { qr_ } \\ \text { st__ } & \text { tu_ } \end{array}$ |
|  | wx_ $x y_{-}$ |

- Visual support displayed in class, on desk or pocket prompt

$$
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z
$$

## abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

```
Mark Lucy William Bob E Kim James
```


## Put the words into alphabetical order.


© $\mathrm{v} 2 \mathrm{vtraining} . c o . \mathrm{uk}$


## Alphabetical Order 1

This Alphabetical order activity is a simple to use word ordering exercise. Words are simply dragged from the left hand side of the screen to their correct place in the word order list on the right hand side. When all words have been placed in the list the user clicks on the check button to get feedback on their selected order.

Games available on the internet from Googling 'Alphabet Games'

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## Developing a sight vocabulary for reading

- High Frequency Words: First 100 HFWs make up 50\% of words we read.
- Children often get stuck on many of these words such as "of", "to", "her", "she", "he", "when".
- These words often affect the meaning of a sentence.
- Knowing these words helps to make a child a faster and more fluent reader.
- They help to build a child's confidence when reading.
- Some words are commonly confused e.g. was/saw...of/for/from...no/on...there/them/then.


## Activities to build a sight vocabulary

> Individualized flash cards for building sight word recognition
with
>Activities for sight word recognition: including matching, sentence building, reading and writing

1.A4page.Write in words to be used. words to pupil.
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3. Ask pupil to place each word. Repeat reading each word until placed.

4. Sequence words into sentence. Copy and write. Read, illustrate.

## Flashcards to support building key word fluency



## Word mats

My word mat
to all get they
my mum on at me a cat
yes up we I he said is look come went for see day in can dog go no of dad Hight frepluyencylkevordfas


Subject specific words with visuals

## Practical activities



- Put on stickers to the know words
- Tick the words known
- Race to the castle
- Timed race to the castle door

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|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| a | it | to | see | I | is |
| it | the | and | in | i† | see |
| in | a | he | see | to | in |
| he | I | is | the | and | he |
| it | to | see | in | a | the |
| is | the | and | it | I | see |


| 2 Sylubles Compound Words |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| inside | upset | handbag | whiplash | sunset | hillside |
| bedtime | pancake | ${ }^{3}$ maybe | sand | shotgun | campfire |
| bathmat | flagpole | homesick | bedroom | baseball | outside |
| ${ }^{1}$ snowball | 2. bathtub | armchair | ${ }^{4}$ railway | handset | ${ }^{6}$ fireplace |
| ${ }^{1}$ upstairs | ${ }^{2}$ upon | ${ }^{3}$ into | armband | ${ }^{5}$ kidnap | ${ }^{6}$ herself |
| ${ }^{1}$ handcuff | 2 popcorn | 3 playtime | ${ }^{4}$ robin | outfit | ${ }^{6}$ password |

## Four in a row word games Templates from:

 www.printablereadinggames.com
## High Frequency Compound Time

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## Games: BINGO Template from the Inclusion and Diversity service toolkit


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## Games: Snakes and ladders

(Inclusion and Diversity Service Templates)



## Games: Dominoes



## Inclusion and Diversity Service Templates



If you want to insert words into the cards before you print, right click on the shape and click on TEACH BESIDE ME

## Games: Pairs



## Phonics to support word reading

## Strategies:

> Break words into their individual sounds e.g. f...r...o...g
>Can you suggest any drawbacks of relying on this approach alone?

## Supporting word reading: looking for pattern

> Break into onset and end rime e.g. c ap
c ap

What is an Onset?

An ONSET is...
the beginning sound in a word, betore the vowel


| What is a Rime? | I ap |
| :---: | :---: |
| Arime is... | n ap |
| The vowel and all the letters after |  |

## Flashcards to support building fluency, focusing on initial blends and rime endings



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## Activities: Word jigsaws

- Cut the words up and put them back together again
$\checkmark$ blends and end rimes
$\checkmark$ individual letters
$\checkmark$ syllables
fict ladybird
kangaroo
submarine



## Activities: Word jigsaws



## Supporting word reading



## Supporting word reading

>Chunk syllables e.g. fan tas tic
> Look for a small word e.g. his carpet

- Is there a word you know which has the same ending? e.g. you know "day" now can you read... "say".
$\mathbf{e a}$


## Supporting passage reading

If you are trying to encourage confidence and flow you can adopt the paired reading approach... 5 second rule, tell the child the word if he/she hasn't worked it out after 5 seconds.
Shared reading (you share the reading. It also provides an opportunity to model reading).


## Developing understanding

Check that children understand what they are reading

- Extend their vocabulary. Check that they understand the meanings of words. "Do you know what ..... is?"
- Ask questions about their reading.

Write down 3 questions you could ask a child before you read a book.
1.
2.
3.

Write down 3 questions you could ask a child during the reading of a book?
1.
2.

3
Write down 3 questions you could ask a child after reading.
1.
2.
3.


## Question prompts for reading (2)



## Dice Games to support comprehension



## Further Reading activities

- Sequence pictures from their reading into the correct order.
- Match words to pictures.
- Match phrases/sentences to pictures.

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To improve fluency you can get the child to record a page of their reading on the $i$-pad and play it back.

- Select a sentence from their reading, cut it up and have the child put it together again. You can cut it up into individual words or phrases.
- Listen to audio books (NI Libraries)
- Use software to read text (Immersive reader Windows 365, Texthelp)


## General points about spelling

- Spelling is a different skill from reading.
- You must be able to read the word before you can spell it.
- You need to understand how to use the word...link to meaning.
- Encourage children to say letter names. Letter names are consistent.
- Be encouraging. Point out the positives.
- Try not to let a child get into the habit of writing a word incorrectly. Consistent incorrect spelling will be established in memory.


## Supporting spelling

> Assistive technology: Use of computers, laptops, ipads, and tablets using software such as Wordshark, clicker, Texthelp Read\&Write and accessibility tools built within the hardware
> Hand held Spell-checkers
> Help mats (similar to those used for single word reading) can be used to support spelling.

- High frequency words or topic words can be put on the desk or visibly close for reference in the class.
> Rules and tricky words can be displayed on the desk or visibly close for reference in class
> Provide on a post-it note quickly, avoid asking them to sound it out in front of peers


## Supporting Spelling

- Practise Look Say Cover Write Check or Read, Trace over, Copy and Spell
- Practise writing in different mediums if available saying the letters as they write them (sand/salt/flour).
- Practise rainbow writing (tracing over in different colours) saying the letters.
- Find a known word with the same end rime and use as an "anchor" word. e.g. day now spell stay play way Wordsearch (use horizontal only)



## Using 'anchor' words : cat



## Examples of word mats, fans and towers to support spelling



## Examples of some mnemonics used to remember tricky words

| does |
| :---: |
|  |
|  |


difficulty
Mrs D
Mrs I
Mrs FFI
Mrs C
Mrs U
Mrs LTY!


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## Making a mnemonic memorable



Choose a word that you find difficult to spell.


Use the mnemonic on the same day as we tend to forget most of what we have leant within 24 hours.

> Think of a cartoon or story to make this word memorable. Funny, silly or cheeky ideas can be easier
> to remember.


The best way to learn is to teach, so show your mnemonic to someone else and tell them how it works for you.


Open up your mind and let your imagination run loose.


Be practical: MULTISENSORY Make a poster or other artwork and display in the classroom and at home

each apelli story behind each spelling mnemonic. Make sure you understand the connection.


Own your story: modify it so that it makes sense to you. Link your spelling to your own experiences.


Print out your mnemonic in black and white and have others colour it in

## Examples of some visual prompts to support spelling rules, word meaning and unusual spellings

| Watch out! Watch out! |
| :--- |
| I can see a witch about. |
| was |
| wand |
| want |
| what |
| wash |
| swan |
| swap |
| swamp <br> wander <br> wand <br> swallow <br> watch <br> wast <br> water |



They went to see the Lough Nes monster.



- Stretch out the word. What sounds do you hear?
- Does it sound like a word you know?
e.g. : look - cook
- Leave out the hard bit- then fill in the details later e.g. bec-s
- Use syllables -try to spell each little bit e.g.: fan / tas / tic
- Try the word out - pick the one that looks right e.g.sno / snoe / snow

Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check Reminder Bookmarks


## Supporting Writing

- Give children prompt questions to help them structure their writing

| When? | Who? | Where? | What <br> happened? | Why? | How <br> does it <br> end? |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |




Last Tuesday I ran home when the siren rang at school. At home I was playing on my skateboard on the driveway outside my house. My driveway is greyand it is long and the skateboard is pink The weather was
windy. No one was with me, and I had fun because I was going fast.


Write a story




## The dog is running.

He is happy.
He is in the park.
The dog runs after the ball.

## Checklists and prompts



Remember your finger spaces


## Help mat to support independence



Aa Bb Cc Dd Ee Ff Gg Hh Ii Jj Kk Ll Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq. Rr Ss Tt Uu Vv Ww Xx Yy Zz We have 26 letters in the alphabet, 5 vowels and 21 consonants. We use 44 sounds to make our words.

[^0]
## Help mat to support independence




## Assistive Technology to support writing

| Read\&Write for Windows (Gold Edition) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Spell Check | Prediction | Dictionary | Picture Dictionary |  | Play | Stop | Screenshot Reader | $3$ | v |



# C2k NEWSDESK GUIDANCE 

Using C2k NewsDesk as a Digital Tool to inspire and Engoge Pupils

## Not all pupils need the same thing

Hi... I'm Ben and I'm 8



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## Summing up

Three significant areas which contribute to literacy difficulties
$>$ Working memory
$>$ Speed of processing speed
> Phonological awareness and processing
How to support sight vocabulary recognition
How to support sound/letter recognition
How to support reading comprehension
How to support spelling and writing activities



[^0]:    Help Card from the BELB Peripatetic Support Service SB Sept 2011

