

On the following pages you will find activities that can be completed at home. The children will be familiar with these activities as they are used in school to help support the teaching of Reading and Writing. All activities promote the ethos of learning through play. Enjoy and have fun!

### 1. Where's Teddy?



This game is a simpler version of 'I Spy'.

Say "Teddy's hiding somewhere that starts with (*insert letter sound*) Where could that be?" Ask your child to go and look to see if Teddy is in the place they have guessed.

### 2. Bingo



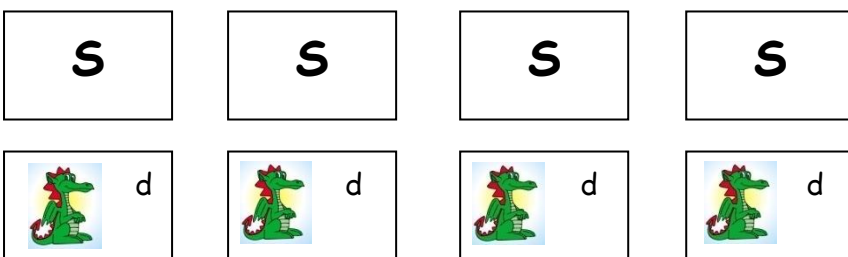
This game follows the traditional format.

Provide each player with a game board divided into rectangles. Each rectangle should contain a randomly chosen letter or picture. Make a complete set of cards for the 'caller' to use. Select a 'caller' to draw cards from a box one at a time and call out what is on the card.

Players must look for a match on their card and if they have one, they place a counter on that rectangle. If you have extra copies, add to the excitement by using bingo blotters ~ the children love to use these! The player that covers all the rectangles on their game board should call out "BINGO!"

### 3. Snap

Make a set of cards where multiples of 4 cards match, for example



Deal out all the cards to the players. Ask players to take turns to overturn one card from their hand and place on a central pile. Teach children that when they see two identical cards, they place their hand on the pile and say "SNAP". They must say why their cards match and add the cards in the central pile to the cards in their hand. Continue playing until one player has all the cards.

\*If you don't have time to make this resource, sets of phonic cards and high frequency words can be purchased from a range of shops, for example, Tesco, Asda, or The Early Learning Centre.

The Early Learning Centre also stock resources that support 'The Jolly Phonics' scheme.

#### **4. Pairs**



This game can use the same resources as in Snap.

'Pairs' is a game of concentration that will help children to recognise letters / sounds or high frequency words.

Place a set of cards (multiples of 2) face down. Take turns to overturn two cards, attempting to match them according to pre-determined criteria, for example matching pictures / sounds / letters / high frequency words.

When the cards match, players keep the pair and take another turn. If the cards don't match they must be turned over (face down) and placed back where found.

Players should continue in this way until all the cards are matched. The winner is the player with the most matched pairs.

#### **5. Dominoes**



Make or purchase a set of dominoes that have two pictures objects on each card. Players are required to join dominoes sharing a common theme, e.g. beginning with the same letter, rhyming etc.

Deal out the dominoes so each player has the same number. Players need to take turns to place a domino on the playing surface by selecting one that matches an existing domino that has already been placed. Players can only add to the beginning or end of a line.

Ask the player to identify how the domino matches. If a player can't place a domino, they miss a turn. The first player to place all their dominoes is the winner.

#### **6. A Trip into Space**



Begin the game by saying "We're going on a trip to the moon. You can't come unless you bring something. You need to bring something that begins with ..."

Work together to write / draw a list of the things you are going to take.

How many things can you add to your list?

#### **7. Play Ball**



Using a large / medium sized ball, nominate the criterion for the type of word they need to provide e.g. words beginning with a certain letter / words that rhyme with ...

Throw the ball between players. Each time they throw the ball they must call out a word that meets that criterion. Throw the ball until no more words can be provided. Give a new criterion to continue the game.

### 8. Mystery Bag



Place some mystery objects in a bag.

Select one object at a time but do not show the children. Provide clues to help your child identify the mystery objects e.g. the initial sound of the object or something that it rhymes with. Repeat for other objects.

### 9. Tic Tac Toe



Tic Tac Toe is played in the same way as Noughts and Crosses. Instead of using noughts or crosses, children can use pictures with initial sounds or key words. Player A may have words that begin with 'b' and player B may have words that begin with the letter 'a'.

### 10. Word Hunt



Challenge children to go 'hunting' for words around the home that fulfil a certain criteria e.g. words beginning with a given letter / words with a specific number of letters. Ask your child to write their words into a 'spy pad' (small notebook).

### 11. Stepping Stones



Write your child's focussed key words on pieces of paper and place on the floor like stepping stones. Ask your child to make a route on the stones only landing on words they can read. They must try to make it from one end to the other.

### 12. Shopping List



When going to the supermarket, involve your child by asking them to write / draw a shopping list for you.

### 13. Exploring Letters



In class, we aim to cover several letter sounds each week. We will display these on the classroom window. Provide your child with large pieces of paper and a range of mark making equipment (felts,

chalks, pencils, pens, coloured pencils) and ask them to practise writing the focussed letters all over the piece of paper. This will produce a piece of art fit for any fridge door!