

Broader Curriculum

Dress and undress independently – allow plenty of time as often as possible to show children how to work buttons, zips and laces and let them practise

Ride bikes and scooters to develop balance and coordination

Go for a walk and make up a nature box with leaves, twigs, fir cones or anything else you find

Experiment with water – put objects in the bath and get your child to guess which will float, and which will sink

Blow bubbles – then see which way the wind blows them

Visit a museum and look for the oldest things your child can find

Take a magnifying glass into the garden and go on a bug hunt. Draw pictures of the insects you see with your child

Think about your route to school and make a map, including any important buildings

Talk with other members of the family – find out about their lives

Use simple equipment, with supervision use the toaster or microwave, use calculators or keyboards

Put on a talent show!

Play in a saucepan band!

Make a den

Design a Lego house/garden/fantasy world

Cook together

Use the apps purchased by school: Espresso and Purple Mash



Supporting Learning at Home in Reception



Speaking and Listening

Sing songs together

Have a conversation about the day

Join in with small world play, talk with your child about where the train is going/what the baby needs/how Superman will save the day

Play 20 questions: player one thinks of an object, player two can ask up to 20 questions to be able to guess the object, but player one can only answer yes or no e.g. Is it blue? Is it taller than a mug? Is it made from wood? etc

In the car, listen to story CDs

When you read a new story, ask your child to predict the ending

Look at a picture book together and play a spotting game.



Reading

Read with your child every day – little and often is the best way to learn

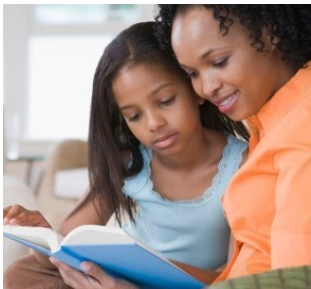
Make it enjoyable – if your child isn't in the mood to read a school book, read some of the captions in a Lego card collection or words on road signs or a recipe, or a note you have written on their banana skin...

Rhyming books are great fun and your child can join in

Be a role model – it's important to let your child see you reading

Play with letters: make them out of dough, bricks, or buy some magnetic letters and stick them on the fridge

Play I-spy when you go out – use the sound the letter makes, rather than its name



Try a free Reading app such as Teach your Monster to Read or Oxford Owl

Writing

Develop gross motor skills: strong arms and wrists are needed for writing. Monkey bars, climbing at the park, gymnastics in the garden...

Develop fine motor skills for strong fingers: try modelling with clay or threading beads. Anything fiddly is good for the hands

Practise forming letters – it's often easier to make them big at first. If your child doesn't want to pick up a pencil, try finger paints, or drawing in sand

Make writing purposeful – your child could write the shopping list, birthday/Christmas cards, notes for the fridge of things to remember



Maths

Practise counting – you can do this anywhere: count toys, books, how many buses you see when you go out

Save your cereal boxes and cardboard tubes for making models. Your child will think they're making a castle; you'll know they're learning about shapes!

Do a jigsaw together – a fun way to develop spatial awareness and matching skills

Play card games – snap helps to develop number recognition

Have a teddy bears' picnic: count out toys, place settings, and share out the cakes

Put up a height chart and mark each member of the family's height

At bathtime, play with different-sized containers

Go shopping, look for numbers on price tags, count items in to bags, use coins to pay

Play 'I Spy' shapes

Spot numbers in the environment – house numbers, on road signs, clocks, microwaves, packets...

Use Mathseeds, an app purchased by school

