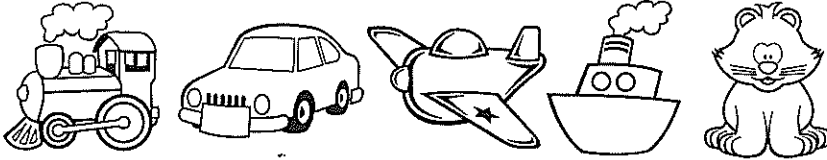


My Home Learning Reading Log

I know my phonemes.

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I know my camera words.

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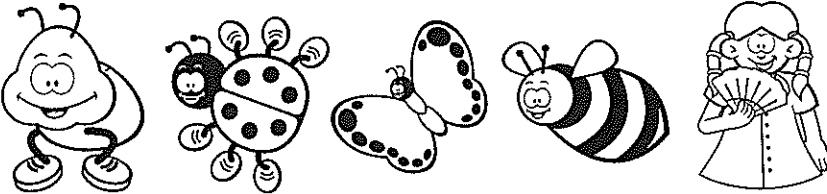
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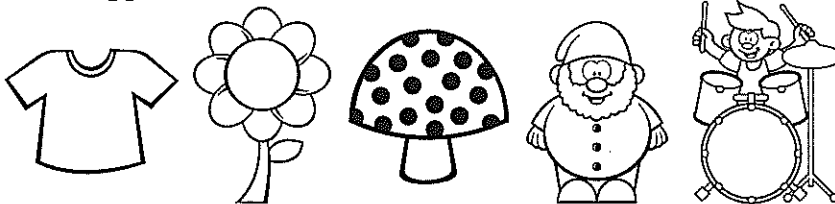
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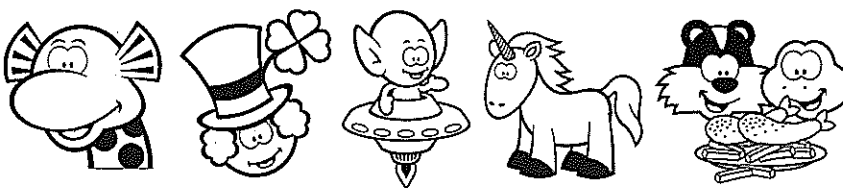
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Learning Phonemes



At home

1. Place lower case magnetic letters on the fridge and move them onto the freezer section when they are known.
2. Try to spot phonemes on packages and containers. Ask your child to say the phoneme as you point to each letter on the cereal box.



In the car

1. Keep a pack of cards with letters on them in the car.
2. Laminate the cards and slip a metal key ring through the corner. This keeps each set together and stops them from getting lost under the seat!
3. Ask your child to flip through the cards and say a phoneme for each letter.
4. Ask your child to spot the letters along the trip. See if the word contains the target phoneme.
5. Ask your child if he / she can think of words that contain each phoneme.
6. Play 'I Spy!', for example 'I spy with my little eye a word that has /s/ in it.'



Games

1. Make up two decks of cards. With these decks you can play lots of favourite card games like 'Go Fish' and 'Snap!'.
2. Get a cheap set of plastic skittles. Place a letter card on each skittle with a piece of adhesive. Ask your child to say a phoneme and then try to bowl it over!
3. Get a hold of some scrabble tiles. Put them in a little draw string bag. Take turns to pull out a tile and pronounce the phoneme.



In the bath

1. Any plastic bath toy can be used to teach phonemes. Write letters using permanent marker pen onto rubber ducks and ask your child to say the phoneme as you line them up along the bath.
2. Write letters onto plastic balls. Ask your child to search for them under the bubbles. If your child says the correct phoneme for each letter, he / she can then toss the ball out of the bath into a plastic salad bowl for double points!



Sticky, yukky and yummy!

1. Draw a letter to represent each phoneme on large sheets of paper, then search through magazines to find words that contain target phonemes. Glue them onto or around the large letters.
2. Cook delicious soup and throw in some alphabet noodles. Try separating them on the spoon and say a phoneme to match each noodle.
3. Make cookies or cupcakes and decorate them with letters.
4. Purchase some glitter pens and write rainbow letters. Have your child trace around a letter you have drawn until it looks like a shiny rainbow!
5. Make up a batch of homemade play dough and create letter works of art!
6. Use face paint to write letters and words onto arms and legs.

Learning Camera Words

What are 'camera' words?

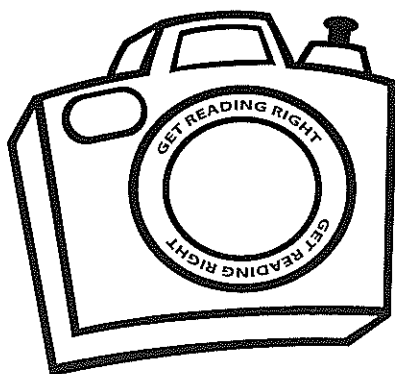
Your child is learning to read and spell using a synthetic phonics approach. This approach teaches children to read and spell using their knowledge of phonemes. Not all words that children will need at this stage in their learning can be decoded easily. This means that some irregular, high frequency words (sometimes called 'tricky' words) need to be learned a little differently at first. We call these camera words.

These camera words have been selected because they occur frequently in children's vocabulary but are not easily decoded at this stage in your child's reading development.

The best way to learn these words is by lots of exposure along with some explicit teaching. The teachers at your child's school will be explicitly teaching children to:

1. Look at the word.
2. Identify if there are any known phoneme-letter representations.
3. Look at the tricky (irregular) bit.
4. Take a mental photo to remember the word.

You can help your child at home by being supportive of the school phonics programme and knowing some fun ways to support your child's learning.



Learning Camera Words



At home

1. Write camera words onto any chalkboards or surfaces at home that can be seen.
2. Place magnetic letters (lower case only) on the fridge and spell out the camera words.
3. Put camera words on cupboard doors or the top of the bathroom mirror where they will be seen every day.



Games

1. If you have a deck of photo cards, you can play many childhood favourites like 'Go Fish' and 'Memory'. You can find some game rules at www.getreadingright.com.au.
2. Lay out the photo cards and play 'I Spy'.



In the car

1. Keep a pack of photo cards in the car
2. Ask your child to read them to you in funny voices.
3. Ask your child to use them in sentences.



In the bath

1. Any plastic bath toy can be used to teach camera words. Write the words on little rubber ducks, line them up along the bath and read them.
2. Write camera words on little plastic balls and ask your child to go bobbing for them in the bubbles.
3. Lather up an arm or leg with soap and write camera words onto the skin.



Sticky, yukky and yummy!

1. Use mini-whiteboards to practise spelling words. These can be made to look 'yukky' by writing BIG, tiny, furry, or spiky letters. These boards make children more confident because mistakes are not seen as permanent as written on paper.
2. Put flour in a baking tray and practise writing the words. This also works well with soapy bubbles in a baking dish.
3. Make cookies that have the camera words etched in using a toothpick. You can also pipe words using chocolate icing onto cupcakes and cookies.
4. Fill a yoghurt pot with water. Give your child different sized paintbrushes and go outside and write 'water words' on the walls, driveway, playground or anywhere where the water will dry off easily.
5. Use face paint to write words onto arms, legs and face.