Phonics

To guide you with what sounds your child should be working on refer to the phase 2/3/4 sound sheets in their reading diaries. Practise with the children listening for and writing words with these sounds in. You can reinforce their understanding with games on sites such as Phonics play/Letters and Sounds.

There are also lots of ways to make learning phonics practical and fun for the children. Here are some ideas.

Search and find

Put objects in a box and ask the children to match them to the correct sound.

Or put the letter or sounds in a bowl of water or sand and using a spoon scoop out the letters and match them to those on a piece of paper.

This can also be done with drawing them on the pavement with chalk and allowing the children to use a paintbrush and water to trace over them

Painting sounds

Write tricky words and sounds on large piece of paper and get the children to trace over them using paints or pens.

Sound hunt

Listening is an important part of phonics so listen to what you can hear on your walks.

Hide tricky words and sounds around the house or garden and get the children to find them, read them and match them to the ones written on the piece of paper.

Tricky word hop scotch

Indoors on pieces of paper or outdoors with chalk create a sound or tricky word hopscotch or ladder. Read each sound or word then jump to next one.

Nature phonics

On your walks collect any leaves, large petals and rocks you find. Write different sounds or tricky words on them. Create sentences with them or build up words.