



Early Years Unit - Reception

Please find enclosed a pack of ideas for activities you could work on **with your child** over the next few weeks.

In school we follow child-led learning and teaching in the moment to allow the children to learn through play and develop according to their own interests and individual stages of progress. The best thing you can do for your child whilst they are off school is to continue to help them learn through play by:

Everyday ideas:

- Play with your child using open-ended toys like building blocks
- **Read a story every day and talk about it**
- Cook together e.g. make fairy cakes
- **Arts and crafts activities**
- Play outside together in the garden if you have one
- **Sing nursery rhymes together**
- Sing number songs together
- **Do jigsaws and puzzles**
- Limit screen time and limit tablet time

Please don't forget to check out our school website www.blaendulais-primary-school.i2bloggy.com where we will be uploading other resources and ideas for home learning activities, if the schools continue to be closed after the Easter break.

Best wishes, Early Years team

When playing with your child, or when doing the activities in the pack with them, some of the skills that your child is developing in school include the following (*NB please note, all children develop at different rates, please don't worry if your child cannot do all of these yet*):

Some skills your child is developing:

Maths/Numeracy

- Count 10 objects
- Compare and order numbers 1-10
- Rote count/recite numbers from 1 to 20 and from 20 to 1
- Recognise and write numbers 0 – 10
- Recognise and order numbers 11-20
- Start to read number words
- Use terms first, second, third, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th
- Understand what last means
- Understand what zero means
- Mentally work out 'one more'
- Mentally work out 'one less'
- Find how many altogether when two groups are combined (adding items)
- Find how many are left in a group when one or more is taken away (subtracting items)
- Compare and describe items using terms longer/shorter, bigger/smaller, heavier/lighter
- Recognise and repeat 3 colour/object patterns and sequences

Language/Literacy

- Identify the sound at the start of words (e.g. mat starts with the sound "mm")
- Orally blend and segment sounds in words ("mm" "ah" "t" makes mat; mat is made up of "mm" "ah" "t")
- Recognise the 26 letters of the alphabet and name by sound (e.g. s = ss not ess, a = ah not aye etc).
- Identify blended letter sounds e.g. th, ch, sh, qu, ng, er, ue, ie, ee, oa, or
- All children are at different stages of reading and writing – some will be:
 - o Reading simple words and high frequency words
 - o Holding writing implements correctly and forming letters
 - o Writing simple and familiar words independently and copy writing words

Activities to Try at Home

Here are a selection of ideas and activities split into the different Areas of Learning that you can do to help your child work towards achieving their early learning goals.

Personal Social and Emotional Development

- Try playing some simple board or card games together or try working together to build a jigsaw puzzle.
- Encourage your child to talk about their friends and arrange opportunities to invite friends round for tea or meet up at a park for the children to play together.
- Encourage children to talk about their likes and dislikes in terms of activities they like and do not like to do. Encourage them to explain their thoughts and feelings.
- Encourage children to be independent but to ask for help when needed. Encourage them to talk to familiar adults and children about activities they would like to do.
- Discuss different feelings – try acting out different emotions for children to identify.
- Discuss plans and routines and encourage children to talk about their daily activities.

Communication and Language

- Initiate conversations with your child, ask questions and demonstrate how to be a good listener.
- Share rhymes, songs, books and stories. Talk about what is happening in the stories or rhymes. With a familiar rhyme or book, stop suddenly and ask your child to continue, or you could accidentally get the words 'wrong' and your child could correct you!
- When sharing stories together, talk about the story and the characters. Ask your child to explain events in stories.
- Model correct sentence structure and words – instead of over correcting your child, repeat words or sentences, e.g. if your child says "bayed an apple" say "Yes, you bought an apple."
- When you have a holiday, a day out or a trip somewhere, work together to create a record of the event, such as a photo, collection of objects or a drawing, which you can talk about later.
- When you have a holiday, a day out or a trip somewhere, work together to create a record of the event such as a photo, collection of objects or a drawing, which you can talk about later.
- Talk about your children's interests and encourage them to learn and use new vocabulary.

Physical Development

- As a family, try some different active activities! You could try; dancing, playing football, going for walks, riding a bike or going swimming.
- Encourage children to try using different types of materials and simple tools. Provide playdough or salt dough to knead and make model, as well as beads to thread onto laces. You could also provide tools, such as child-safe scissors, paintbrushes, crayons, and child-safe knives and forks.
- Encourage your child to get dressed/undressed independently and manage their own personal hygiene (such as washing their hands and brushing their teeth).
- Encourage your child to talk about healthy food choices. Go shopping with your child and talk about healthy foods and why a balanced diet is important.

Literacy

- Share pleasure in reading with your child. Share books together and join a local library. Encourage your child to look at a range of different books such as, stories, poems, information books and comics. Talk about favourite stories and characters.
- Practise identifying letter sounds (phonics). Look for letters you see when you visit different places and demonstrate reading the words.
- Make word and letter sound cards for sounds or words your child finds tricky. Try saying them in funny voices to help practising them more fun!
- Encourage your child to explore writing using different materials such as pencils, chalk, crayons and pens. They could try writing letters into a tray of sand or flour using a finger or try painting letters onto a pavement using a paintbrush and water.
- Demonstrate different purposes for writing such as writing a shopping list, writing a greetings card or a postcard when on holiday. Encourage children to try writing for different purposes too and praise them for their efforts.

Mathematics

- Look for numbers when you visit different places. Talk about house numbers, car number plates, prices of goods in the supermarket, etc. Challenge children to identify the numbers and say which number is one more or one less than the ones they see.
- Play dice games with your child such as snakes and ladders.
- Talk about simple addition and subtraction in practical ways. Use toys or other items to demonstrate addition by counting on and subtraction by counting back.
- Look for 2D and 3D shapes around the house or when out and about and ask your child to describe them. Encourage the use of correct terms such as 'sides' and 'corners'. Build models or pictures using empty packaging or paper shapes and talk about the shapes used.
- Compare size, weight and capacity. Get your child using words like 'longer', 'shorter', 'taller', 'heavier', 'lighter', 'full' and 'empty'. Talk about things you see in the world around you, or create opportunities for comparison, perhaps by rolling playdough snakes ('Can you make a longer/shorter one?') or pouring water into different cups during bath time.

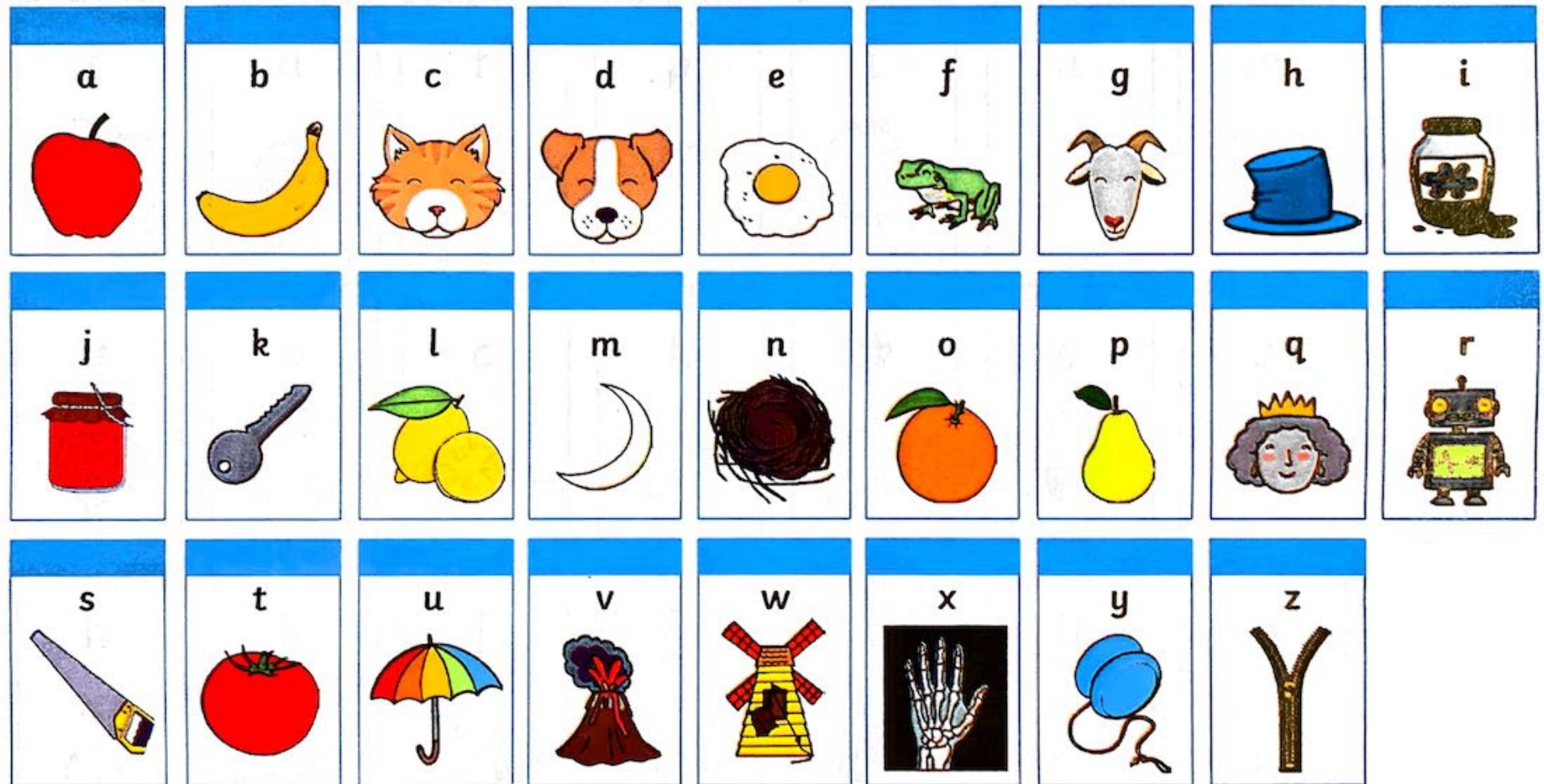
Understanding the World

- Talk about special events in your family, such as holidays, weddings, birthdays and celebrations. Maybe bring in a souvenir to show the class!
- Take a trip to a park and look at the plants, insects and animals.
- Explore different weather conditions and talk about seasonal changes in the world around you.
- Go on a technology treasure hunt at home! Talk to your child about how we make these things work and how to use them safely.
- Look at different types of technology when you're out and about. They could explore using a camera to take photos on days out too.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Try some different creative activities using a variety of different materials such as; making musical instrument models using empty packaging, collage activities to make pictures using wool or coloured paper and mix colours of paint to paint pictures.
- Encourage children to sing their favourite songs and listen to music.
- Try using some toys or make some puppets and create your own story!
- Try setting up a pretend shop, restaurant, hairdressers salon, workshop or classroom. Role play as customers and shopkeepers, etc. and create stories and scenes together.

My Alphabet Mat



My Phase 2 Sound Mat

s



a



t



p



i



n



m



d



g



o



c



k



ck



e



u



r



h



b



f



ff



l



ll






























ss



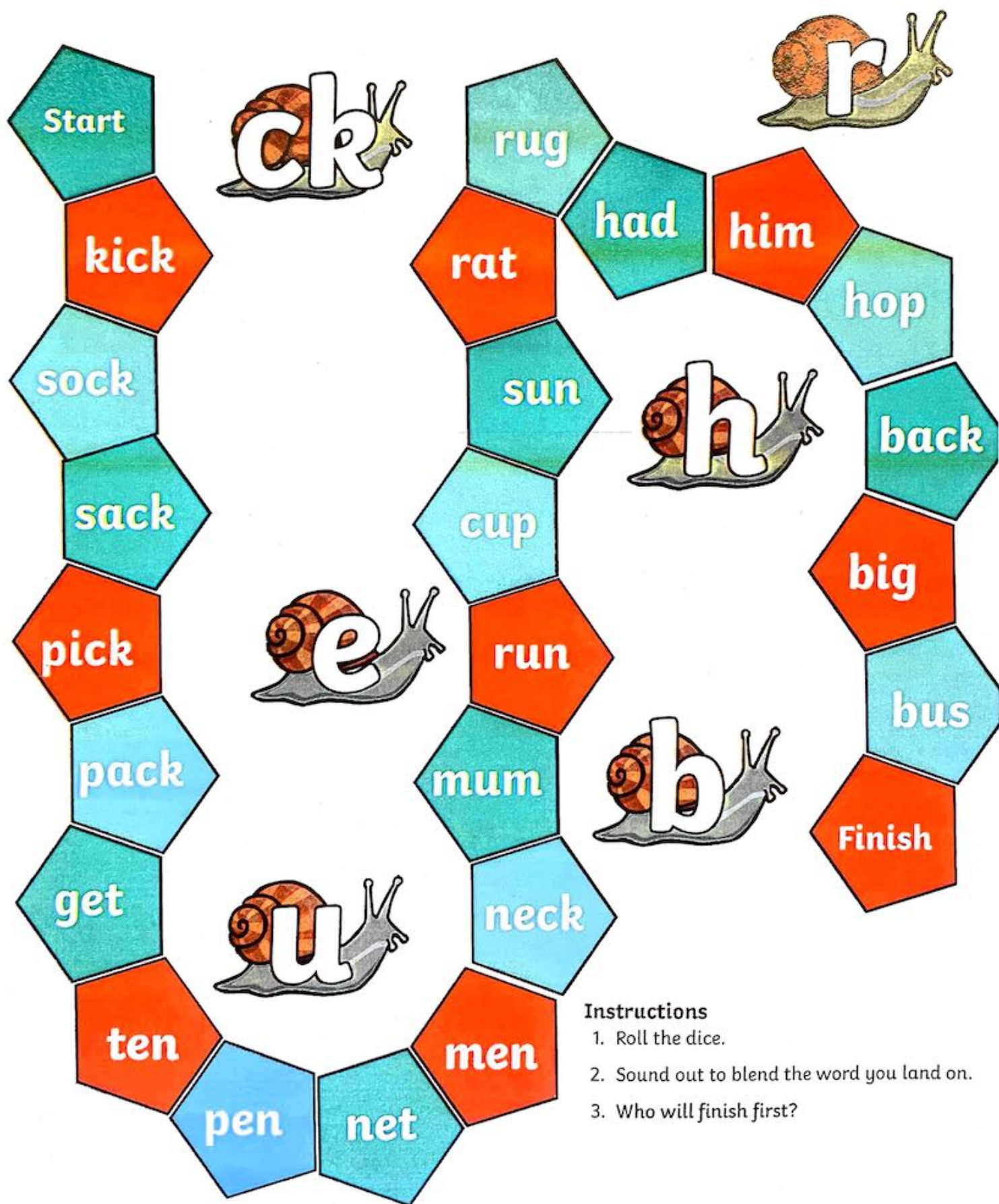
twinkl

visit [twinkl.com](https://www.twinkl.com)

My Phase 3 Sound Mat

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|
| j  | v  | w  | x  | y  | z  | zz  | qu  |
| ch  | sh  | th  | ng  | ai  | ee  | igh  | oa  |
| oo  | oo  | ar  | or  | ur  | ow  | oi  | ear  |
| air  | ure  Pure | er  | | | | | |

CK,E,U,R,H,B Read and Race

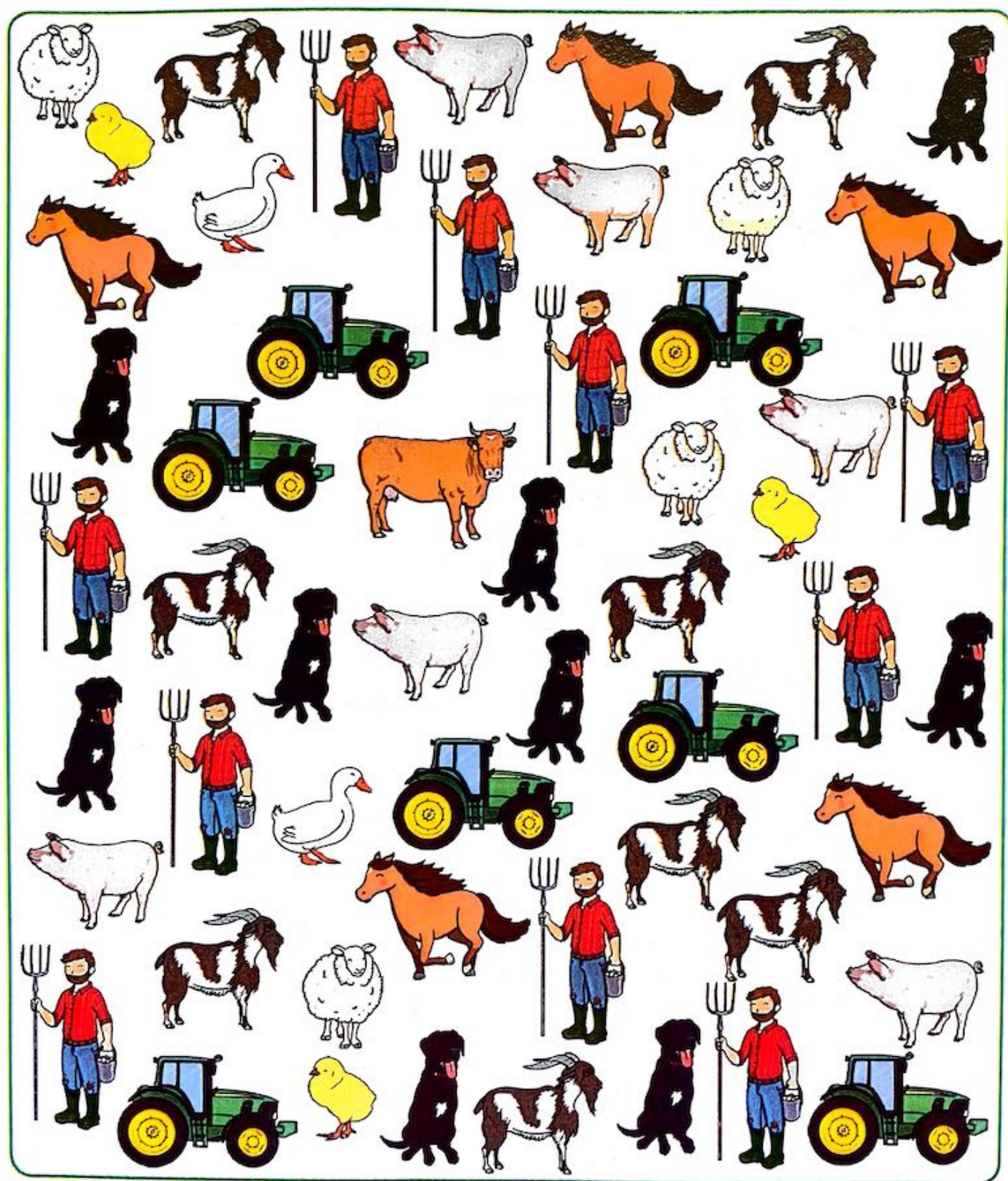


Instructions

1. Roll the dice.
2. Sound out to blend the word you land on.
3. Who will finish first?

On the Farm

I Spy and Add to 10

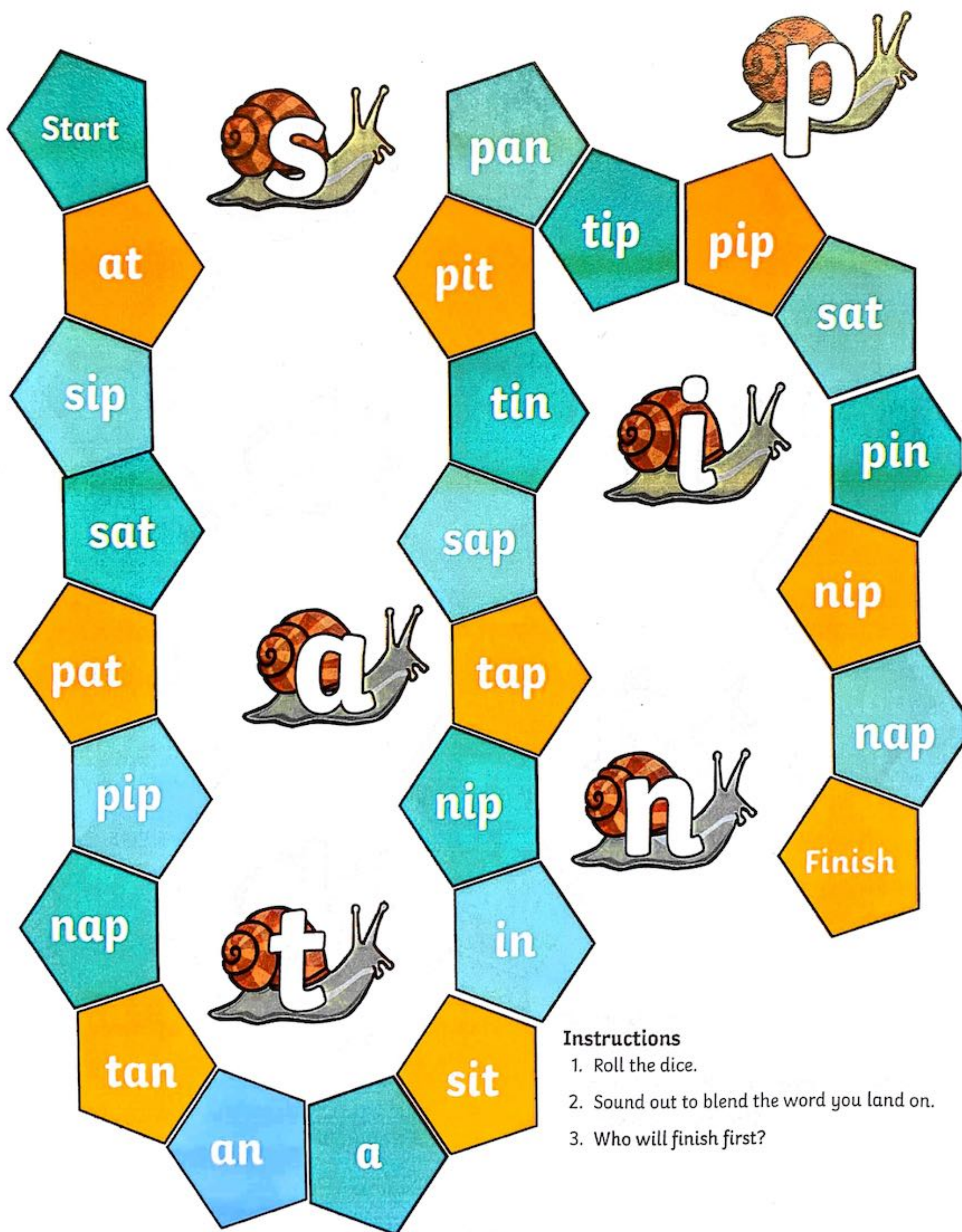


Spring

I Spy and Count to 10



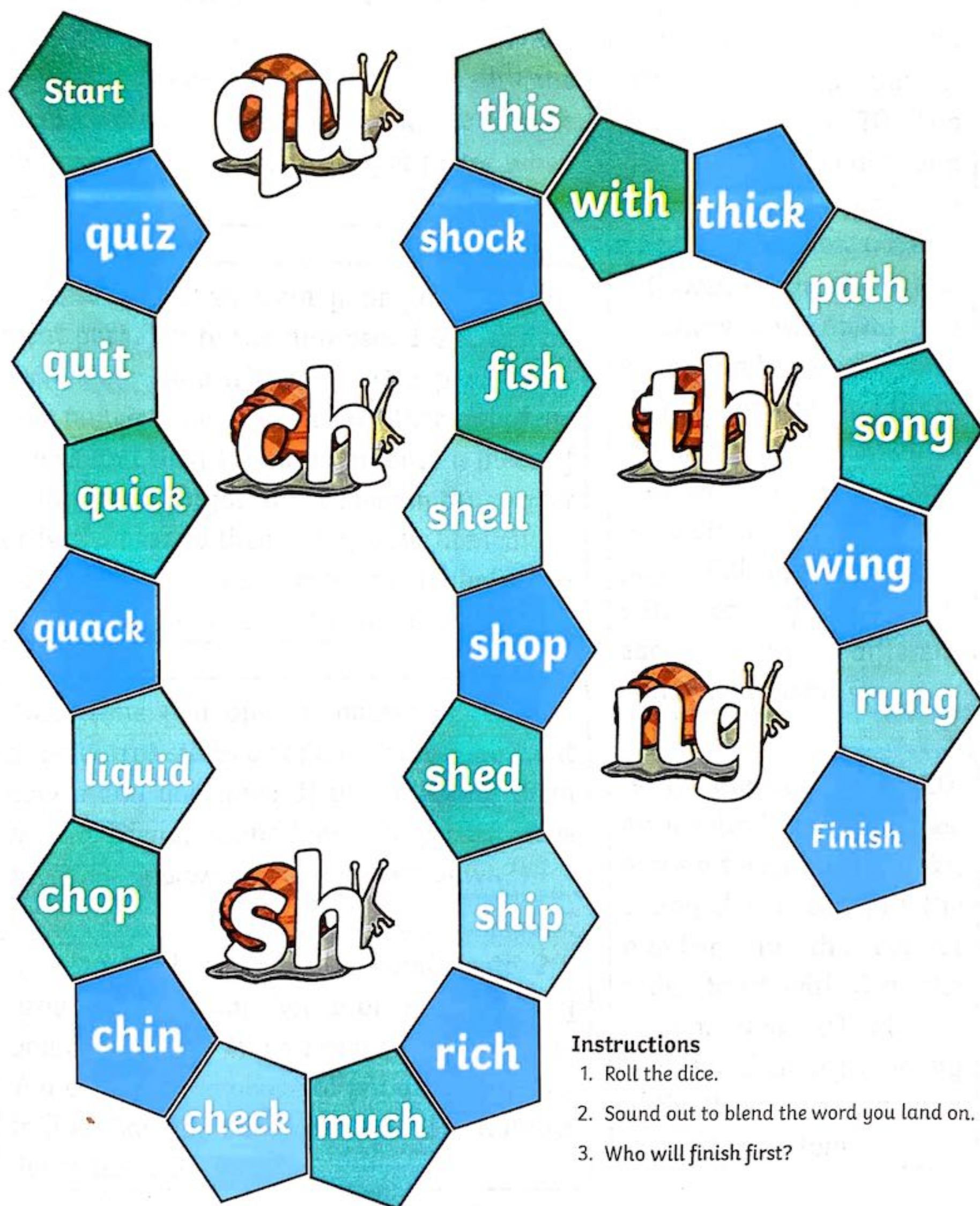
SATPIN Read and Race



Instructions

1. Roll the dice.
2. Sound out to blend the word you land on.
3. Who will finish first?

qu,ch,sh,th,ng Read and Race



Instructions

1. Roll the dice.
2. Sound out to blend the word you land on.
3. Who will finish first?

Maths: Counting and Ordering Numbers to 20

Home Learning Challenges

Write out the numbers 0-20 on some paper or card, cut them up and then ask a grown-up to mix the numbers up – don't peek! Then, see how quickly you can put them into the correct order. You could ask someone to time you and then see if you can get faster when you try again.

Collect 20 leaves from your garden or a local park. Write the numbers 1-20, one on each leaf, using a thick marker pen. Use a hole punch to make a hole in either end of the leaves and then thread them onto a piece of string. Don't forget to put them in the correct order! You could then put up your homemade number line in your bedroom to help you remember the order of the numbers.

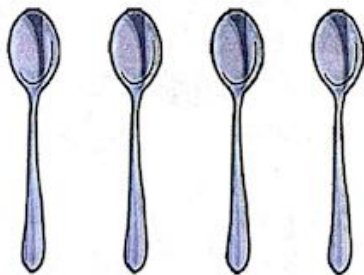
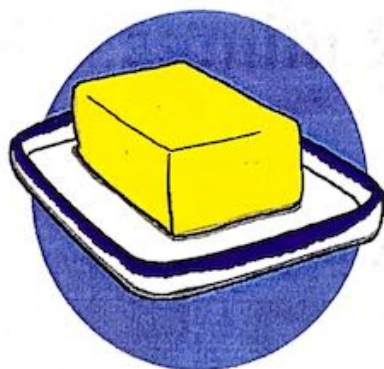
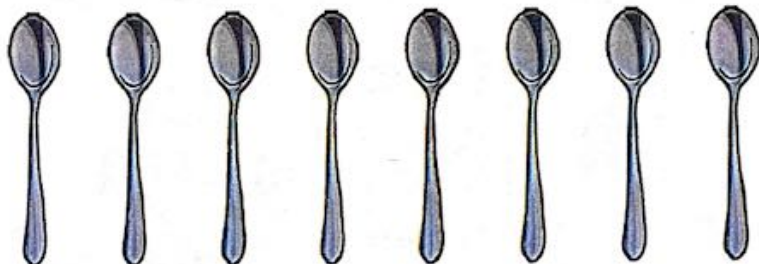
Next time you open a packet of raisins, some carrot sticks or apple pieces, count out how many you have. If you're eating them with a friend, count how many they have too. Can you write the numbers down?

Ask an adult to hide the numbers to 20 around your room, house or garden. See if you can find all 20 and place them in order. You could ask someone to tell you a number to find. Can you remember what the number looks like and find it?

Draw circles on a piece of paper and put different coloured paints in shallow trays. Choose a number between 1 and 20. Dip your finger into paint and add that many petals to one of the circles, making a flower. Count the petals to check how many you have and write that number in the middle of the circle. Choose another number and do the same to another circle on your page. Fill up your page with colourful flowers, each with different amounts of petals.

Write the numbers 0-20 on plastic building bricks. Make a tower of 21 bricks, seeing if you can put the numbers in the correct order. Start with 0 at the bottom and 20 at the top and then try starting with 0 at the top and 20 at the bottom.

Tablespoon Biscuit Recipe



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1



2



3

**30 minutes**

4



5



6

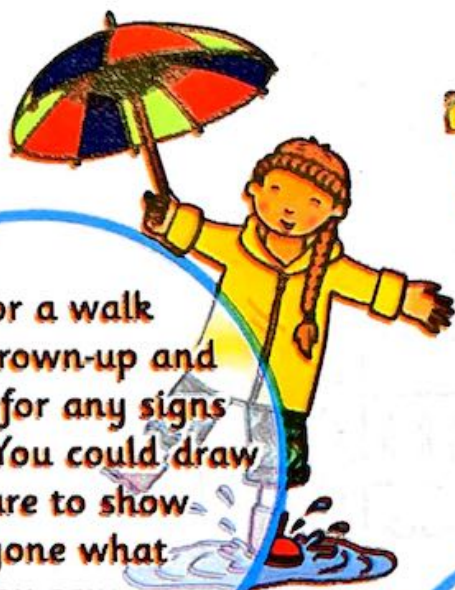
**12 minutes**

7

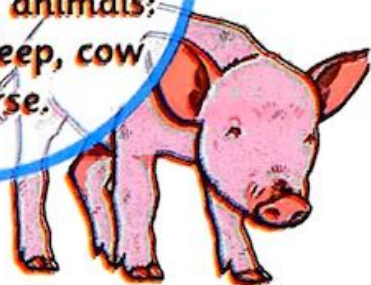
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Spring Home Learning Challenge

Go for a walk with a grown-up and look out for any signs of spring. You could draw a picture to show everyone what you saw.



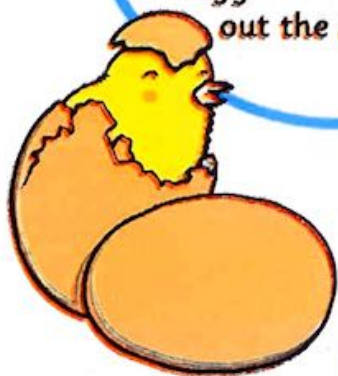
During spring, lots of animals have their babies. Find out the names of these baby animals: duck, pig, sheep, cow and horse.



Make a weather chart to show what the spring weather is like. You could ~~cut out the symbols from a magazine~~ ^{cut out pictures} to stick on your chart, or you could draw a picture of the weather each day.



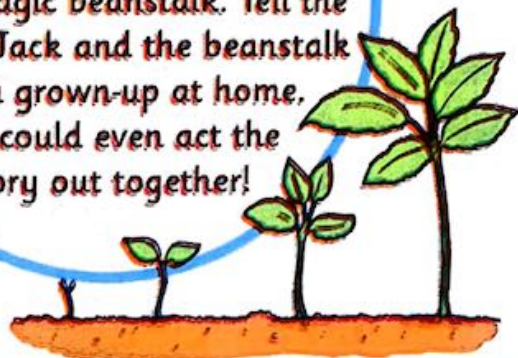
Hetty the Hen had 10 eggs. On Monday 4 eggs hatched into chicks. How many eggs were left in Hetty's nest? You could draw a picture of the eggs to help you work out the answer.



Draw a picture of a flower. Remember to draw some petals, a stem and some leaves on your flower.



During spring, seeds begin to grow. In the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, Jack's beans grow into a magic beanstalk. Tell the story of Jack and the beanstalk with a grown-up at home. You could even act the story out together!



Tricky Words Phase 3



be

was

me

we

my

she

her

he

all

you

are

they