



Language, Literacy and Communication
Fun activities for a Foundation Phase Child



Incorporate learning into everyday situations.

- Get children to compile a shopping list. Talk about spellings. Make lists related to hobbies, interests, favourite films, singers or TV shows.
- When making a cup of tea or cooking a meal, ask children to watch and write their own instructions. Use words such as first of all, next, after that, finally.
- Get children to read signs and notices when outside.
- Listen to your child read regularly. Question them about what they have read to ensure they are understanding what they are reading. They could then write the next chapter. Design a 'Wanted' poster for a character. Write a book review. Write a diary extract for one of the characters. Could they rewrite part of the story from another character's point of view?
- Write a letter to a favourite author, sportsperson or someone who inspires them telling them why they are special. Even a family member or friend.
- Get children to read anything, not just books. Pick up travel leaflets of places to visit. They could write their own guide for younger children or an imaginary place. Design their own theme park. Create their own posters and adverts.
- Get a copy of 'First News' newspaper for children. This is really popular with pupils and includes lots of reading and writing activities as well as opportunities for discussion. It also keeps them informed of world and national events.
- Read websites including BBC Newsround which has articles, videos and quizzes for all interests.
- Children could write their own newspaper article about something that interests them. Is there an issue that affects them? Write a letter to the local councilor or MP. Write a script for a news item. They could video themselves and include people to interview. Make a list of questions to ask. How will they begin and end the programme? Write a weather report also.
- Use the spelling lists on Teams to practice writing sentences. They could try to incorporate all spelling words to create a mini story of ten sentences.
- Write a story in 100 words.
- Keep a daily diary, real or imagined.
- Create a reading challenge for your child. Give rewards for books read or a certain amount of pages each day. Rewards could be stickers or computer time.
- Children could design their own computer game. Think of characters and landscapes on Earth or in space. What about transport? Heroes/villains?
- Practise handwriting using lined paper. Ensure all of the small letters are the same size. Tall letters and capital should be the same size also. Children can copy out information from a book or magazine.
- Get older brothers or sisters to read to younger siblings. It's a great confidence

booster and gives you some breathing space.

- **Make a board game based on a book.**
- Design Top Trumps cards. Agree on four or five categories and draw a picture. Cards could be designed on book characters, sportspeople, animals, places, singers, TV programmes etc.
- **Be a reading role model. Make sure that your children see you reading and enjoying reading. Read to your children as well as listen to them read.**
- Children could read non-fiction or fact books. Design an information page. Draw a picture in the middle and interesting facts around it. E.g. dinosaurs, space craft, planets, a Roman soldier, animals, buildings, cars etc.
- **Create a fact file about an author, singer, sportsperson, actor, friend or family member. Children could write their own questions at the end.**
- Create a Treasure Hunt around the house with children creating the clues.
- **Children could make their own Wordsearches, crosswords or True or False game.**
- Design an alien. What features does it have? Draw a picture and describe it in words. How can it survive on a different planet? How many hands, eyes? Is it more like an insect or human?
- **Create a comic strip. Think of characters and how the story can be told in a certain amount of boxes. Use paper or computer. Think of a catchy title.**
- Useful website addresses:
- <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/> Includes lots of ebooks for children to read, videos, spelling activities and ideas for learning. They can also have books read to them. Register for free.
- https://www.theschoolrun.com/search/apachesolr_search/english?filters= A great guide for parents and numerous activities for children
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zv48q6f> An excellent website with games, activities and lessons based on spelling, reading, writing.
- <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar> Lots of games and activities for children to learn.
- Don't forget to use Hwb where you can find more activities.