

How you can help your child in Nursery



How to help your child with independence

We encourage an independent approach within Nursery where we will support your child to complete tasks on their own.

However, this will depend on each child and we will always be there to encourage, model and help your child when necessary.

- Encourage your child to tidy away their toys
- Ask your child to try themselves before the need of adult support
- Help your child to take off and put on their shoes (Shoes with Velcro are brilliant for independence when in school)
- Encourage your child to use the toilet independently
- Promote a 'can do' attitude with lots of praise.



Fine Motor skills

Every day we plan activities for children to develop the muscles within their arms and fingers. Pencil grip takes time and there are many activities that can be done to help your child to hold a pencil with comfort and accuracy.

Children do this at their own pace - remember it's not a race!

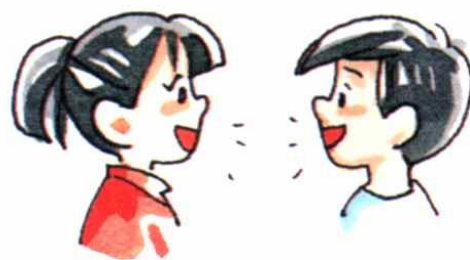
- Playdough - Roll, squish, squeeze and make as many shapes as you can with the dough.
- Threading and lacing - use dry spaghetti, colanders, shoe laces to thread pasta, beads, large buttons.
- Let your child use child-safe scissors to cut up paper, magazines, cereal boxes.
- Activities that involve zipping, fastening buttons and winding or unscrewing are great fun too.



How to help your child with communication

Children learn to listen, understand and talk by observing those around them. They use all of these different skills to support their phonics, reading and writing development.

- Talk to your child, take time to talk without the TV or music on
- Sing Nursery Rhymes and silly songs
- Share, listen and enjoy a variety of stories and books
- Play musical instruments or make some of your own, then ask your child to copy a beat
- Listen for rhyming words within stories and speech
- Talk to your child and exaggerate the first sound within the words you say, e.g. Ssssnake, p p play, ffffox
- Visit the local library
- Make up your own stories and songs together. You could use puppets and toys to act them out.
- Play matching games and ask your child to follow the instructions, listening carefully, in order to complete the game, e.g. Put the big pencil into the red pot.



How to help your child with Maths

Maths is all around us within our daily lives whether it is the rectangular shaped door we open on the way out of the house in the morning, or the numbers on the clock we use to tell us when to take food out of the oven. This gives the opportunity to use maths in everyday activities making maths real.

- Sing number songs such as 1,2,3,4,5 once I caught a fish alive and 5 little speckled frogs
- Point out the numbers you see on signs, doors, number plates
- Count objects and actions as you do them, e.g. counting steps you take or the amount of plates you set at the table for meals
- Name shapes as you see them and talk about the shapes that can be seen around you
- Build models and towers using bricks, cereal boxes and talk about which is bigger or smaller
- Have fun baking, count out how many scoops of flour and weigh ingredients.

