

Literacy ideas for home

Reading

It is an extremely important part of the Literacy Curriculum to read books. Sharing books, including e-books, with your children is vital. Read to them and let them read to you. Talk about the books and ask them questions. Ask them about particular vocabulary and what words mean. Ask them about what they think characters are thinking and what they think may happen next. Make time for this in the structure you plan for the day. Oxford Reading Tree online has brilliant e-books. <https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page>

Practical ideas for Literacy Development

1. Song Sticks

The activity – Song Sticks by Pre-K Pages

In a nutshell – Glue some simple symbols from your favourite nursery rhymes and songs to create the sticks. Then let kids choose one and guess what it stands for before they sing. Rhymes are not only a great way of developing listening and speaking skills but also work as a great social exercise. Perfect for quick interludes too!

What you need –

- Wide Craft Sticks (or just ice cream ones)
- Labels (free printables available)
- Glue
- Scissors
- Pen
- Small Cup



2. Alphabet Rocks

The activity – [Alphabet Learning with Chalk Rocks by And Next Comes L](#)

In a nutshell – Why not try some creative alternatives to those printed worksheets? Take the learning outside and draw letters with chalk on the pavement so that kids can fill the spaces with pebbles or erase them carefully with a fizzy mixture. It's immersive and makes children focus on each letter for a longer time.

What you need –

- Chalk
- Pebbles
- Fizzy Mixture (check out the ingredients [here](#))



3. Secret Letters

The activity – [Secret Letters by Busy Toddler](#)

In a nutshell – Sprinkle a little bit of magic into your children's day. Take a white crayon and write some letters or short words on a white piece of paper. Hand kids some watercolour paints and watch their amazement when they discover secret marks coming up out of nowhere...

What you need –

- White Crayons
- Watercolour Paint
- Paper
- Paintbrush



4. Follow the Word Path

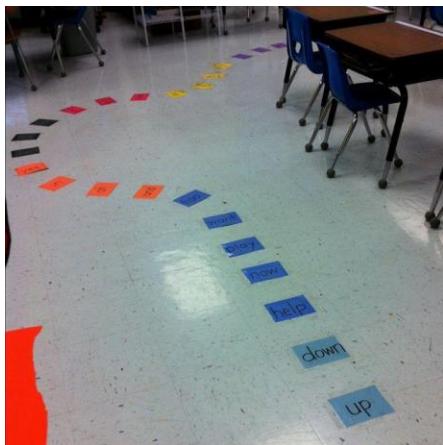
The activity – [Sight Word Floor Game by Your Teacher's Aide](#)

In a nutshell – Make a trail of cards with words that your kids have just learnt and turn them into a game. Let's see who can get the furthest with spelling out all the words correctly!

To mix this activity up, you can use dice or get them to jump from one step to another on one leg to work on the gross motor skills.

What you need –

- Colourful Cards
- Pens
- Dice



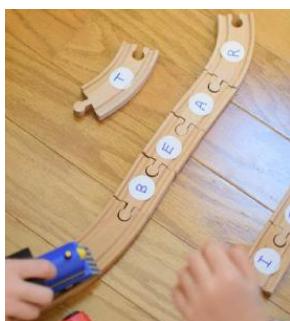
5. Train Track

The activity – Train Track Word Building by Paper and Glue

In a nutshell – A nifty way to sneak in some EYFS teaching to pure fun. Write letters on the toy train track parts and let kids' imagination go wild with building the paths and connecting different letters to make up some familiar words. Later, encourage children to say the letters out loud when their vehicles drive over the writings.

What you need –

- Wooden Tracks
- Pens
- Glue
- Paper



6. Spelling with LEGO

The activity – Spelling With Lego by Twinkl

In a nutshell – Good, old LEGO comes to the rescue yet again. Write two to four-letter words on the long blocks and see if the little ones can recognise the marks and find single, corresponding blocks to stick on top of them.

What you need –

- LEGO
- A Marker



7. Write a letter

Write a letter to a family member- check on how they are. You can even write an email to a family member- embrace technology.

8. Phonics play

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/freeIndex.htm> a website with free activities at the moment for phonic games

9. Following instructions

Take advantage of this time and participate in lots of baking! Write down instructions for your child to follow. Give verbal instructions on what to do. Afterwards- depending on ability- get your child to write down the instructions to make the cake.

10. Writing a diary

Write a diary of your days at home. Write in it a few times a week, every day or once a week on what you have been doing.

11. Write a newspaper report.

Write a newspaper report on the positive side of lock down and the negative side of lockdown. What are you enjoying in lockdown and what are you finding difficult in lockdown? Interview other members of your family and include their quotes in your report.

12. Making sentences

Using the high frequency words, practise spelling them. Make sentences using these words. Can you make funny sentences?

13. Make a joke book

Make your own joke book. Can you make your friends and family laugh!

14. Make a recipe book

With all this time for baking, write down all your favourite recipes! Perhaps you could illustrate your recipes.