



Everton Nursery School and Children's Centre

## Home Learning Activity Pack

This home learning pack contains relevant topics, resources and information to support your children's home learning. Be sure to regularly check Everton Nursery School's YouTube and Twitter account for further resources and information.

Twitter: [@EvertonNursery](#)

YouTube: [Everton Nursery School and Family Centre](#)

[E-Safety](#)

[Please refer to our 'Online Safety' tab on the Everton Nursery website for advice and information on how you can keep your child safe whilst accessing online learning.](#)

<u>Focus area of learning</u>	<u>Activities</u>
<b>Phonics</b>	<p><b>Phase 1:</b> The main purpose of this phase is to begin to develop awareness of sounds and rhythms.</p> <p><b>Body percussion:</b> With your child explore the sounds you can create using your body.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Can you click your fingers? Clap your hands? Tap your knees?</li><li>• What sounds can you make with your feet? Can you stamp, hop, jump, leap?</li><li>• Play some music your child enjoys and have fun exploring body percussion to play along.</li></ul> <p><b>Environmental listening walk</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Take your child on a walk around the local area, maybe near a park, a forest, near a stream or in a large field. Encourage your child to listen, perhaps close their eyes and try to identify particular sounds they can hear e.g. children playing, an aeroplane, trickling water.</li></ul> <p><b>Music makers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Challenge your child to find items in the household that could be turned into drums! Follow your child's lead and copy their beats using your hands, spoons etc. Challenge your child to tap out a simple beat and copy you.</li><li>• Recycle your used water bottles to create musical shakers. Find items to fit inside the bottles e.g. stones, pebbles, marbles, rice etc. Secure them inside the bottle and when you begin to shake the bottle, listen to the sounds it creates. Encourage your child to play along to some of their favourite music.</li></ul>

### Syllables

- Challenge your child further by introducing the new term 'syllables'. Demonstrate what a syllable is by clapping the number of syllables in your own name. Encourage your child to clap with you. Next clap the number of syllables in your child's name. Can they count how many syllables are in their name?

### Phase 2:

Click [here](#) to view a video on YouTube demonstrating what the 42 letter sounds are and how they sound.

### Learning Intentions

**Phase 1:** Phase One of the Letters and Sounds phonics document concentrates on developing children's speaking and listening skills and lays the foundations for the phonic work which starts in Phase 2. The emphasis during Phase 1 is to get children attuned to the sounds around them and ready to begin developing oral blending (blending together letter sounds) and segmenting skills (sounding out letter sounds in words).

**Phase 2:** In Phase 2, letters and their sounds are introduced one at a time in sets. Spend a week practising each letter sound, learning what the letter looks like and challenging your child to hear the initial sound in words they are familiar with such as 't' for 'tap', 'a' for 'apple'.

**Set 1:** s, a, t, p

The aim of this aspect is to raise children's awareness of the sounds around them and to develop their listening skills.

[To view the Letters and Sounds Website for more information and resources click here](#)

## Nursery Rhymes

### Nursery Rhymes

They are often a child's first experience with words. Nursery rhymes help your child learn new vocabulary, develop their numeracy skills and speech. When actions are linked to words in the nursery rhyme it can help improve physical motor skills, improve rhythm and movement. Nursery rhymes can also support your child in improving their memory and concentration. Below you can access links to a few favourite nursery rhymes.



[Wheels on the Bus](#)

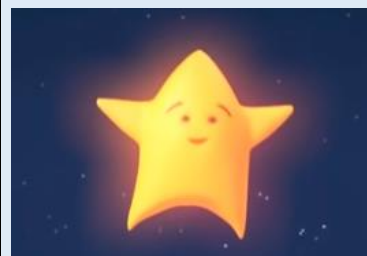
-An alternate phonics version of Wheels on the Bus!

The Gorilla on the bus goes grr, grr,



[Insy Winsy Spider](#)

-Use actions to act out the spider climbing up and down the drainpipe. You can lift your arms up and open them wide to show the sun coming



[Twinkle Twinkle](#)

-Talk about stars, where and when do you see them?



[5 Speckled Frogs](#)

- Sing the rhyme together and act it out using any props you have available. The log might be a chair, a cushion or a piece of wood outside. You might make the

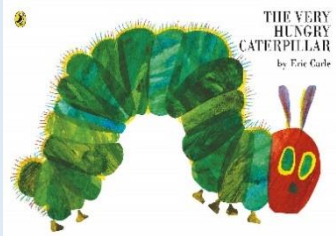
	<p>grr. The ball on the bus goes, bah, bah, bah. The snake on the bus goes, ss, ss, ss - Draw and cut out tickets to use on the bus.</p>	<p>up. This is great for learning prepositions e.g. up, down, high and low. -You could cut out a piece of card, draw on lines and then create some holes. You can then weave a web using some wool or string. You could also make your own paper spider to sit on the web.</p>	<p>-Can you make stars in different sizes and patterns? You could draw and cut them out.  -Feeling energetic? Count how many star jumps you can do!</p>	<p>frogs by drawing and cutting them out, or they could be rolled up socks or a selection of cuddly toys. - The rhyme is helpful for children's understanding of subtraction and what happens when you take away one item at a time.</p>
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**Story Telling**

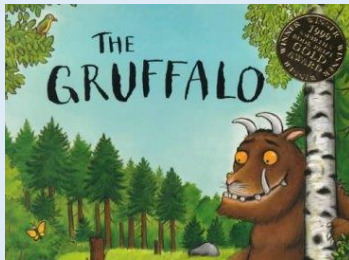
**Story Telling**  
Developing a love of books in early years is essential to support a lifelong love of literacy. It helps children develop receptive and expressive language. Listening to stories can improve children's attention and listening skills. Reading books out loud to children stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. It helps the children develop language and listening skills and prepares them to understand the written word.

**Reading to your child can help:**

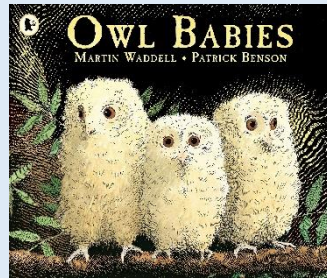
- Reduce stress
- Improves brain connectivity
- Increases their vocabulary and comprehension skills
- Aids in sleep readiness
- Increases self-esteem and builds good communication skills



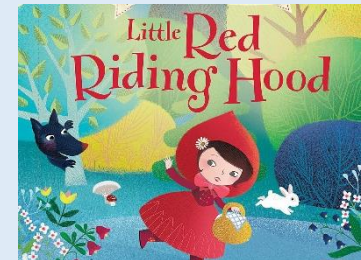
[The Very Hungry Caterpillar animated film](#)



[The Gruffalo](#)



[Owl Babies](#)



[Little Red Riding Hood](#)

**Bird Watching Week (25<sup>th</sup> January)**

Please refer to your home learning pack for activities and information about Bird Watching Week.

- Big Garden Watch bird species tally chart: how many birds can you spot outside?
- Step by step guide on how to make homemade bird feed to hang outside.
- Bird species identifying activity.
- [Click here to view a video about various bird species and the sounds they make.](#)
- Create your own pair of binoculars using two recycled cardboard tubes and fasten them together using glue or sellotape.

**Learning Intentions**

	<p>This topic links to the ‘Understanding the World’ area of the early year’s curriculum. Children will begin to understand more about birds, their habitat, where they can be spotted, what they eat and what they look like. Extend your children’s knowledge by identifying the various body parts of a bird e.g. beak, claws, feathers, wings etc.</p> <p>This topic also has links to Mathematics. You can encourage your child to count how many birds they find, which bird they see the most or the least. How many wings does the bird have? Is it a tall bird or a short bird?</p> <p>As children explore the topic they will be exposed to plenty of new vocabulary such as, species, habitat, flight, wings, beak, binoculars etc.</p>
<p><b>Chinese New Year</b></p>	<p>Please refer to your home learning pack for activities and information about Chinese New Year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The story of the Chinese Zodiac</li> <li>• Which Chinese Zodiac are you?</li> <li>• <a href="#">Click here to view a CBeebies clip about celebrating the Chinese new year.</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Click here to view a CBeebies clip about the Chinese New Year Zodiac Story.</a></li> </ul> <p><b><u>Learning Intentions</u></b></p> <p>This topic links to the ‘Understanding the World’ area of the early year’s curriculum. Children will learn about special events in their lives and in the lives of other people. This topic will support children’s understanding of the similarities and differences they may have to others.</p>
<p><b>Early Writing Skills</b></p>	<p>Young children enjoy exploring with their hands. Early mark making experiences are a great example of this. Early mark making experiences help your child develop their concentration, creativity, and the skills they need for writing. On a tray pour some flour/salt/shaving foam, support your child to explore the marks they can create engaging in conversation looking at what they are creating. (To start again just smooth out the product of choice and begin the fun again).</p> <p>To help your child improve their pencil grip and to strengthen the muscles in their hands ready for writing there a number of fun, simple activities you can engage with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Threading: use a piece of string, a pipe cleaner or a shoe lace to thread through buttons, holes, penne pasta to improve your child’s hand control, hand-eye coordination.</li> <li>• Create a simple playdough recipe using flour, oil and water. Encourage your child to knead, pull, squish, squeeze and manipulate the playdough to build strength in their fingers and hands.</li> <li>• Use various mark making tools such as chunky chalk, felt tips, crayons or pencils. Lay paper down on the floor or on a wall indoors or outdoors, drawing on the floor or wall will support your child’s gross motor skills.</li> </ul> <div data-bbox="748 1248 1664 1457" data-label="Image"> </div>

## Physical Activity

Physical activities that involve continuous movement of large muscle groups will increase heart rate, cause breathing to quicken and make you work up a sweat. They are important for development of a healthy heart and lungs.

- Dancing
- Running / jogging
- Playing tag
- Dodgeball
- Football / basketball
- Raking leaves / climbing stairs
- Gymnastics: doing sit ups, push ups, star jumps etc.

### Health and Self-care

Supporting your child to become independent with their dressing will boost their confidence and self-esteem. Supporting children to dress themselves is a great way to develop their independence and self-care skills. Gather a selection of clothes for both you and your child, then have a race to see who can put on their clothes first! **Extension:** Talk to your child about the different clothes we wear for each season and why e.g. when it's cold we need to wear our hat, gloves or scarf.

### Learning Intentions

Children aged between 3-5 are recommended to spend at least 180 minutes (3 hours) a day doing a variety of physical activities including outdoor play. The 180 minutes should include 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous physical activity.

#### **Regular physical activity can support your child in many ways:**

- Increased self-esteem.
- Promote a healthy lifestyle.
- Build stronger muscles, bones and joints.
- Learn new skills while having fun.
- Stress relief.
- Promote positive social interaction with friends.
- Increase focus and concentration in school.



**Use this quality time at home to further support your child in their toileting routine. Do they consistently remember to flush the toilet? To wash their hands with soap? Talk them through the toilet routine and the importance of washing our hands and keeping good hygiene.**



