

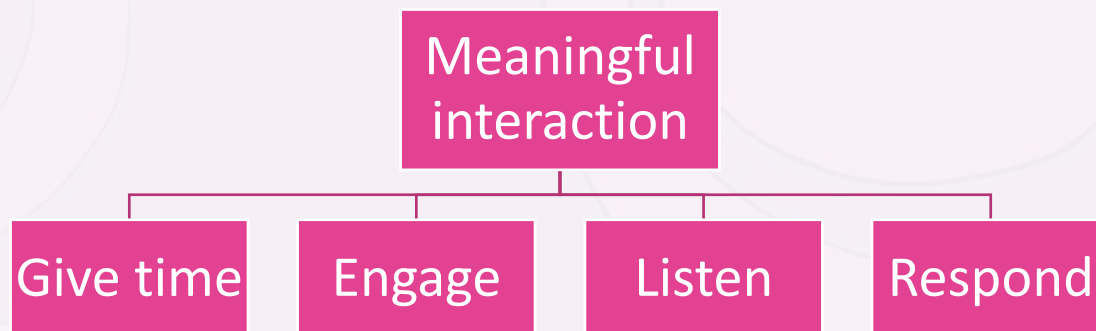
Busy Bags



Anika Watson



“Nothing matters more than stopping, listening and responding positively to young children” – Julie Fisher, Improving Interactions in Early Years.



Interactions are profoundly important for supporting and extending children's learning. Regular meaningful interactions can help develop children's skills in thinking, reasoning, explaining, persuading and language development.



Unique Child

Your child may
do it differently,
we embrace and
welcome all
differences.

“ No brain is the same; no brain is the best. Each brain finds its own special way”, psychiatrist Edward Hallowell.



Outline for the session

- Information about the curriculum, how phonics is taught in school and how you can help at home
- Activity with the children (approx 45 mins, which is the length of a lesson)
- The children return to class
- Summary and evaluation

Your Busy Bag



- When the children join us, decorate your bag with the stickers in your trays
- At the end of the session, you can put all your resources in the bag
- The busy bag is a fun way to encourage children to get involved with their learning at home

How to use your Busy Bag

It'll keep you busy because it changes all the time!



As a Sentence Maker – put in an object (e.g. a teddy bear) and get your child to describe it using words and phrases, working towards a full sentence..... "The brown teddy bear has a very cute face".

As a Story Bag – put everyday objects in your busy bag and use them to make up a story with your child. If you also have a notebook inside you can jot down the story and read it back to them, which will help to reinforce the relationship between ideas, words and print.

As a Phonics Bag – put everyday objects in your busy bag to stimulate conversations about letter sounds. What sound does the object start with? Can your child think of something else that starts with that sound. Can they sort objects into groups that share the same initial sound? When your child is ready you can extend to use digraphs and to practise identifying middle/end sounds in words.

As a Rhyme Maker – put objects or pictures in the bag and get your child to work out which rhyme they might be from.

As a Book Bag – collect objects that are in a story and use them to help retell the story (like a story sack)

As a Memory Bag – play Kim's Game

As a Writing Bag – fill with a variety stationery to encourage writing & mark making.

Remember - YOU are the keeper of The Busy Bag!

Your Busy Bag

Children need a lot of practice!

And encouragement!

And a sense of success: 'I can do this, so I will keep going...'



Why Phonics?

- Phonics gives children the tools to **decode** words by **segmenting** (splitting them up) and **blending** (putting them back together).
- Children don't just have to rely on visual memory i.e. seeing a word and remembering its shape.
- Phonics is taught in Phases allowing children to build their toolbox of sounds gradually.
- Phonics works for most children.
- Phonics relies on **phonemes** and **graphemes**.

Vocabulary

Phoneme – a single sound that can be made by saying one or more letters

Grapheme – written letters or group of letters which represent a single sound e.g. reading or writing c or ck

Digraph – two letters which together make one sound e.g. ck

Trigraph – three letters which together make one sound e.g. igh

Vocabulary

Sound blending - linking the sounds together and reading the whole word in one go

Segmenting – With segmenting, your child hears a word and identifies the different sounds that make up that word.

Common exception words - words in which the English spelling code works in an unusual or uncommon way.

Let's Blend

c

a

t

c

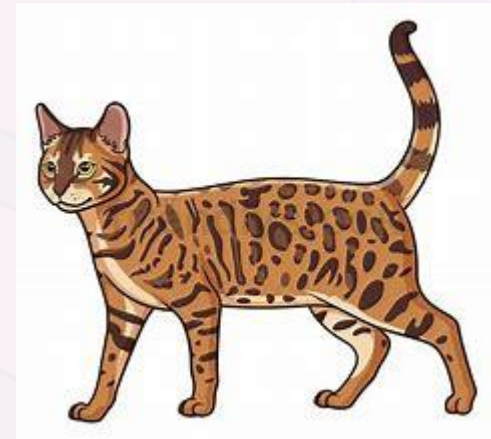
a

t

cat

Segmenting

- In order to spell, children must learn to hear the sounds within words.
- I want to write about a
- I must hear the word in my head and split it up into individual sounds.

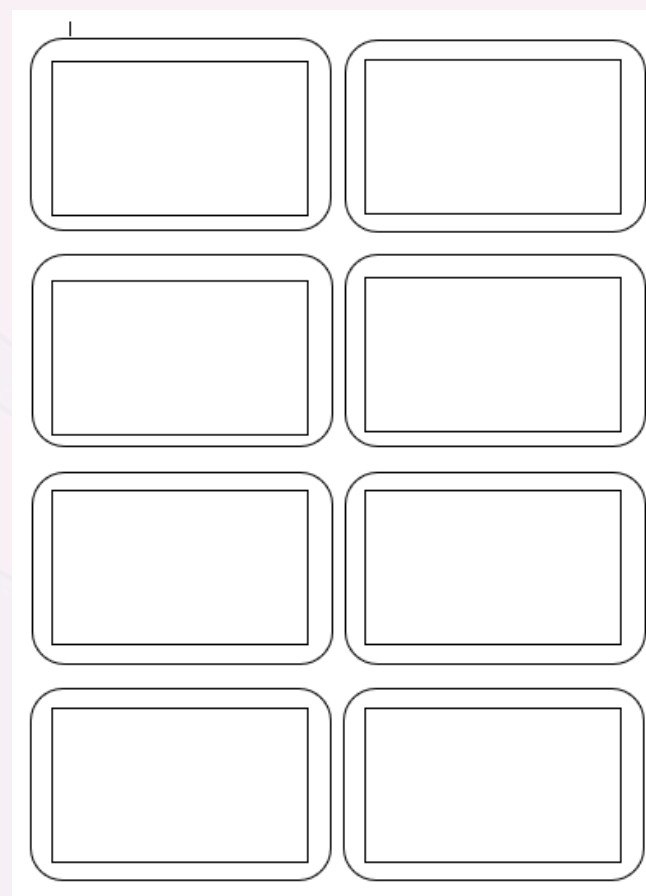


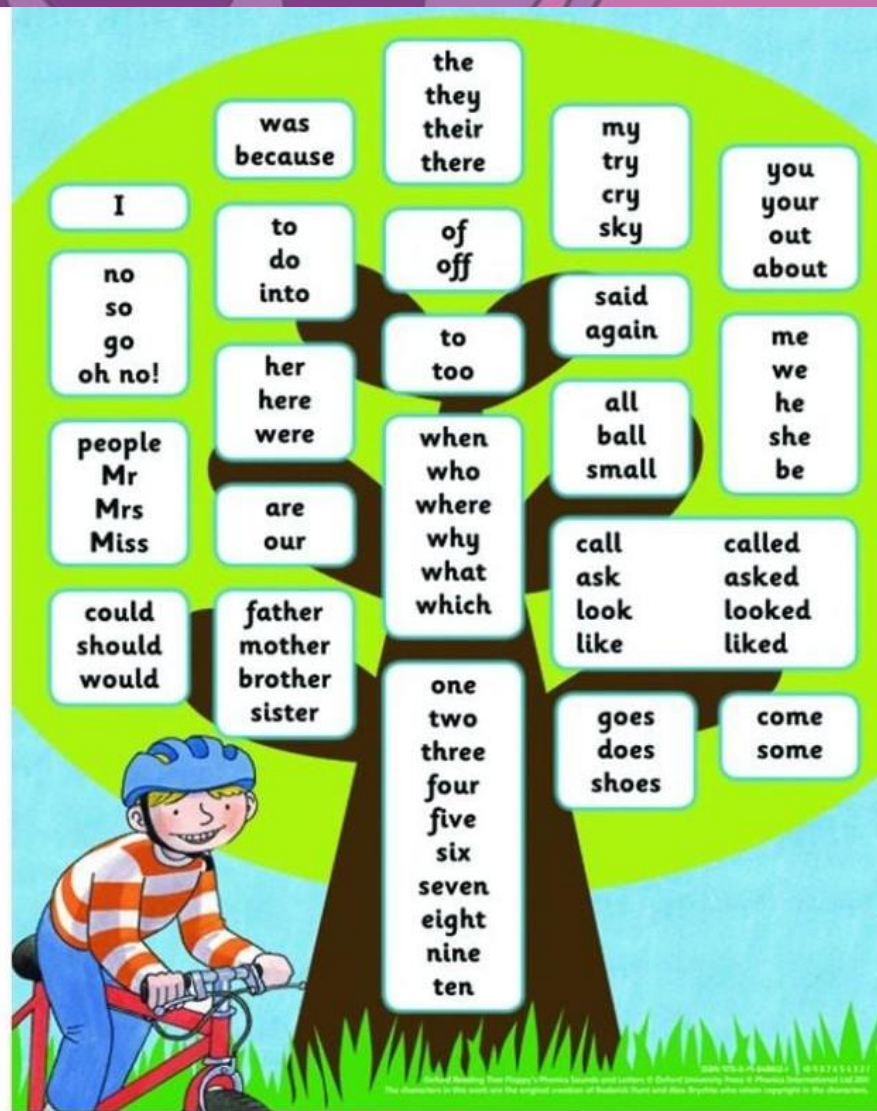
Teaching Order

- Children are taught the phonemes in a certain order.
- The first group of phonemes allows them to make several **CVC** words. They can then start making their own words straight away.
- You have a copy of the sound mat in your pack

Helpful Word

- Use the flash card templates that are on your table to create flash cards for the common exception words
- You can take them home if you don't have time in the session
- You can also create your own at home























Pure Sound

muh – a – tuh

m – a - t



Phonics Game

				
				
				
				<p>Well done</p>  <p>FINISH!</p>
<p>START</p>				

Game 1

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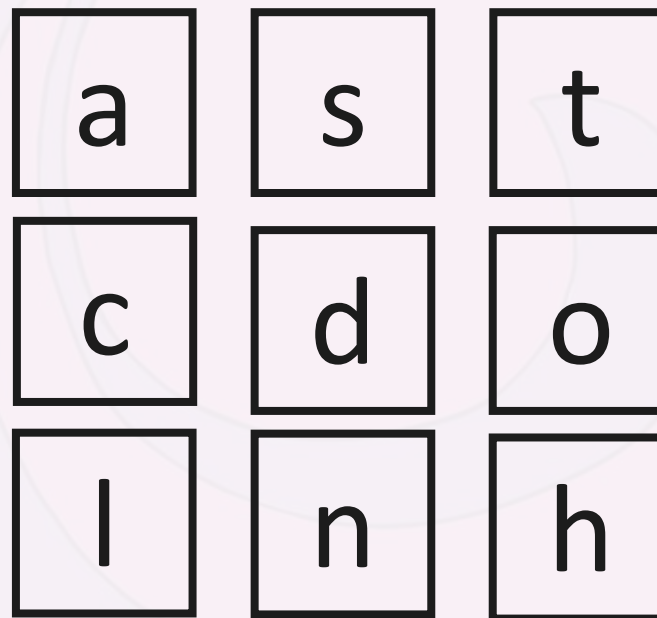
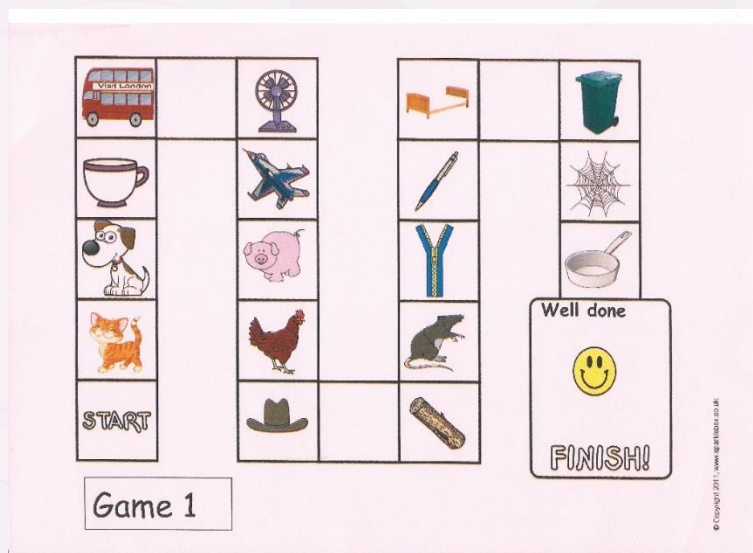
Phonics Game

1. Cut up your grapheme cards while the children decorate their bags

s	a	t	p	i	n
m	d	g	o	c	k
ck	e	u	r	h	b
f	ff	l	ll	ss	j
v	w	x	y	z	q



Phonics Game



Phonics Game



Use the
whiteboard and
pens to practice
writing the
letters or words

a b c d e f
g h i j k l
m n o p q
r s t u v
w x y z

Phonics Game

1. Look at the picture. What can you see?
2. Say the initial phoneme (beginning sound) and find the matching phoneme card.
3. Move along the track to the finish.

Or Look at the picture . Sound out the whole word and build the word with your cards

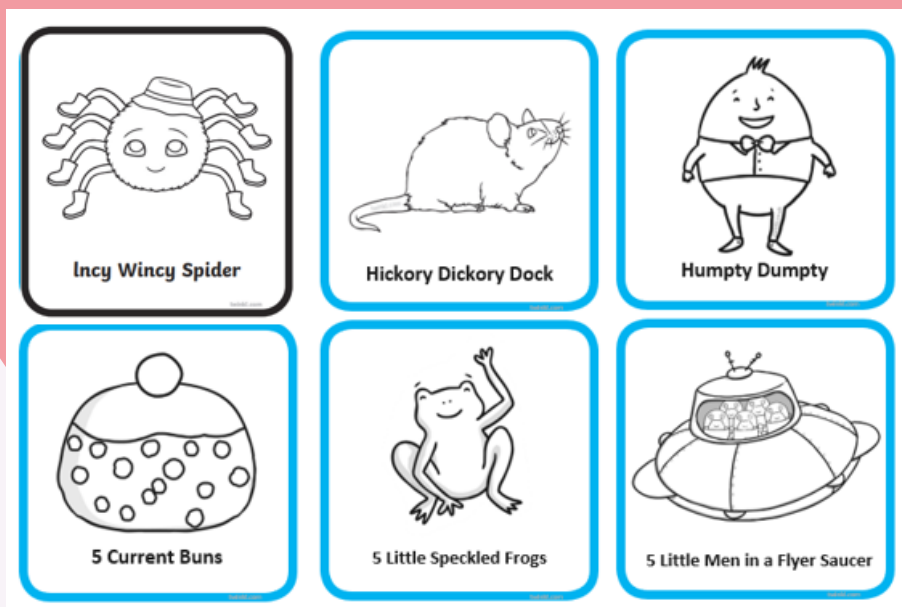
4. Write the letter or word on a whiteboard, use the letter formation guide to help.

Reading Comprehension

Singing songs and rhymes can help develop children's comprehension skills.

Reading Comprehension

Colour in the pictures and sing the nursery rhymes. If you have nursery rhymes in your own language, please include these as well.



Ask your child questions when they read to you



Summery



- Use the busy bags at home to consolidate the sounds the children are learning at school
- Use flash cards to help them remember the common exception words
- Practise the sounds yourself, build up your confidence


Useful websites

- [Fine Motor Skills - Therapy Fun Zone](#) – craft ideas to help develop fine motor skills
- [Get Squiggling Letters - CBeebies – BBC](#) – practice letter formation on a tablet or phone
- [Literacy - CBeebies – BBC](#) – lots of online stories and poems
- [Letters and Sounds, English Games for 3-5 Years – Topmarks](#) – sky writer games shows letter formation. Lots of phonics games too


Useful Websites

- [Oxford Reading Tree & Levels: parent guide - Oxford Owl for Home](#)
- [www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds](#)
- [https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/the-alphablocks-guide-to-phonics](#)
- [www.oxfordowl.co.uk](#)

Tell us what you think.....😊



Family Learning Evaluation



Tutor: Anika Watson Session Attended: (please tick)

FS1	FS2	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
(nursery)	(reception)						

We hope you enjoyed today's session - to help us monitor the quality of our courses, please complete the questions below:

Your name: Date:

Glad you came?

Did you enjoy your time in school today? Yes/No

Did you learn something new? Please rate increase in knowledge or skills:

+0	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6	+7	+8	+9	+10
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Two things I have found useful today:

.....

.....



We want our sessions to be as helpful as possible - what could we do better?

.....

.....

Need more information?

Use the QR codes below to see further Family/ Adult learning resources, these are also on the PowerPoint from today's session:

Further Family & Adult Learning opportunities:	Further support for families who have additional needs:
	

If you prefer not to use QR codes, we can speak to you directly - just leave your contact details below and someone will be in touch. 🙌

Email.....

Phone number.....

Tell us what
you think

Extra Information to use at home:

Further Family & Adult Learning opportunities:



Further support for families who have additional needs:

