

ALPHABET



1. Alphabet Hunt

Choose a letter of the alphabet. How many different objects can you find outside that begin with that letter? Have another go with a different letter. Are there any that are particularly tricky?

2. A to Z

Choose a topic such as transport, animals, food, etc. Can you think of an item that begins with each letter of the alphabet for that topic. You could turn this into a game and see who can do it fastest, or create your own alphabet line using pictures outside.

3. Beanbag Scrabble

Layout the alphabet tiles on the floor and throw seven beanbags to land on different letters. How many words can you make using some or all of the letters? You could set yourself a challenge to find as many words as you can in a minute or try to find the longest and shortest word.

4. Alphabet Move

Layout a set of alphabet tiles in a random order on the floor. As quickly as possible, put the alphabet tiles in the correct order. Ask a friend to time you and see if you can improve your time with a bit of practice. Why not challenge yourself and see if you can order the alphabet backwards?

5. Time to Talk ...

- How many letters are in the alphabet?
- Can you say all of the letter sounds and letter names? Are there any you need help with?
- Do all countries use the same alphabet? If not, how are they the same and how are they different?



PHONICS



1. Phonics Soup

Place a selection of phonics pieces into a circle or hoop on the playground. Take it in turns to pull out a sound, say it out loud and if you are correct you can keep that sound. Move round the group, taking it in turns to choose a sound and whoever has the most at the end is the winner.

2. I Spy

Play a game of I spy using letter names or letter sounds. You could make it more adventurous by choosing a word that either starts or ends with or contains the sound. For example, I spy with my little eye, something with the digraph 'ow' in the word. A good idea would be to use phonics pieces or tiles to show the grapheme as well.

3. Match The Sound

Using phonics tiles, stars or pieces, pull out and choose a sound. Can you find an object in the setting or playground that contains that sound? Can you find more than one item? Which ones are the most difficult and which are the easiest to find?

4. Hit the grapheme

Lay out a selection of different graphemes on the playground. One person must shout out a phoneme and the others must try to throw their beanbag to land on the matching grapheme. Whoever hits the grapheme first can keep it and at the end everyone must try to build a word with the sounds they have collected.

5. Time to Talk...

- Which phonemes have more than one grapheme? Can you give some examples?
- How many phonemes are in your name?
- Which sounds do you find the trickiest to read or spell?



STORYTELLING



1. One Sentence Each

This is a perfect group activity. Sit in a story circle and choose who will start. The first person will say an opening sentence to a story and then the next person will continue it by adding one more sentence. As you move round the circle, take it in turns to say a sentence to create your very own group story!

2. Something Magical

Choose a resource from your outdoor space, such as a puppet or a leaf. Create a story about this item. Where might it have come from? What can it do? What will happen when you pick it up? A mysterious leaf could have fallen from a secret kingdom in the clouds, or a twig might turn into a key to open a secret passageway.

3. Story Setting

The setting of a story is always very important. Use the great outdoors to inspire you to create your very own story setting. You could talk with a friend or get creative and draw and record your ideas. Think about who might live in that setting, what type of character they might be and what it would be like to live there. Don't forget to give your setting a name!

4. Create A Story

Choose 5 objects from the resources or from your outdoor space, such as alphabet tiles, stars or a puppet. Challenge yourself to create a story that includes those 5 items, objects or characters. You could then tell it aloud to a friend or write it down.

5. Time to Talk...

- When telling a story, how can you make it more exciting and interesting?
- Discuss with friends your favourite stories and why.
- What are the different ways we can record and share our great stories?



LET'S READ



1. Share a story

Pick a story or book to share with others. Spend some time discussing: What did you like the most? Is there anything you did not like? What did you learn by reading it?

2. Reading Space

Choose a book and find your favourite reading space to take some time to enjoy it. You might want to sit under a tree, in the sunshine, or create a brand new reading den!

3. Guess The Ending

Authors spend a lot of time thinking about how their stories will end. Pick a story and read it aloud but stop just before the ending. Take it in turns to guess how you think the book might end. You could record everyone's ideas and then read on to find who had the closest guess. Did you like the ending or do you prefer one of your own?

4. Find the phoneme

Choose a book and choose a sound. Whilst reading, look out for words that contain that sound and see how many times you can spot it. You could think of creative ways to keep a record, such as using a tally or drawing a bar graph of how many times you find the sound per page.

5. Time to Talk...

- What is your favourite genre of text?
- Where is your favourite place to read?
- Talk about all the different times you have to use your reading skills throughout the day.





1. Book Charades

Pick a book and act out the title. Can your friends guess which book you have chosen?

2. Let's Perform

Choose and act out a story you know well or create one from your own imagination. You might want to create props and costumes and use a backdrop and puppets to help bring your story to life.

3. Hot Seating

Think about the characters in a story that you have shared recently. Pick a character that you would like to learn more about and put them in the 'hot seat'. One person should pretend to be that character while others ask them questions which they should answer whilst staying in role.

4. Guess The Character

Have a go at this activity in a small group. One person should choose a character from a well known story. The others must take it in turns to ask yes or no questions to try and find out more about the character. For example, are you an animal? Are you from a fairytale? Keep asking questions until someone guesses who they are correctly.

5. Time to Talk...

- How do you feel when pretending to be a different character?
- What can help you to get into the role of a different character?
- What skills are really important when performing?
You could think about voice, body language, position, etc.



