

# PHONICS



## 1. Phonics Tap

Build a word using the phonics tiles. Take a racket and ball and bounce the ball on the racket. Every time the ball bounces, say one of the sounds out loud until you have sounded out the whole word. Turn this into a game with a partner by asking them to create or write the word as you bounce the ball and sound it out.

## 2. Match The Sound

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

## 3. Beanbag Scrabble

Lay out the phonics mats on the floor and throw a selection of beanbags to land on different graphemes. You can decide how many beanbags you want to throw. How many words can you make using some or all of the sounds? You could set yourself a challenge to find as many words as you can in a minute or try to make the longest and shortest word.

## 4. Hit the grapheme

Lay out a selection of different phonics mats 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?



# READING AND

# STORYTELLING



## 1. Something Magical

Choose a resource from your outdoor space, such as a mask 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.

## 2. 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!

## 3. 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?

## 4. Reading Spaces

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!

## 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 they are your favourite.
- What are the different ways we can record and share our great stories?



# LET'S WRITE



## 1. Making Letters

Go on a scavenger hunt around your outdoor space to collect lots of different natural resources, such as leaves, sticks, pebbles, etc. Use these objects to create the letters of the alphabet. Think about what they look like and how you write them. Can you use chalk or a whiteboard to try and write them too?

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## 2. Writing Tools

We do not always need to write everything down or to record our writing with pen and paper. Think about all the different tools we can use for writing or the many different ways we might choose to record our ideas. Can you try some out?

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## 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. Record your ideas or write them down and then read on to find who had the closest guess. Did you like the ending or do you prefer one of your own?

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## 4. Create A Story

Choose 5 objects from the resources or from your outdoor space, such as a leaf, a mask or a ball. 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...

- Where can we look or what can we use to inspire our own writing?
- What is your favourite type of writing, e.g. fiction, reports, poetry?



# SPEAKING AND LISTENING



## 1. Sounding Out

For this activity you will need to use your listening skills. Listen for the different sounds you can hear around you. Hold your hand up in the air and every time you hear a different sound, raise a finger. Talk to your friends about the different sounds you heard.

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## 2. Act It Out

Try this activity in a group. Find three items and work together to make up and create a play that involves the three different props. Create your own outdoor theatre and show your performance to your friends.

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## 3. 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!

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## 4. Describe it

Sit or stand in a circle. One person starts by naming something that they can see. As you move round the circle, everyone else must think of an adjective to describe that object. If someone can't think of an adjective, they must name a new object and it starts again. Try to be as adventurous as you can with the adjectives that you choose!

## 5. Time to Talk...

- What skills are really important when performing?  
You could think about voice, body language, position, etc.
- What do we need to think about and do to be a 'good listener'?



# KEEP MOVING



## 1. Word Association

Try this activity with a partner or in a group. You will need one ball and everyone will need a bat. The first person starts by hitting the ball to the next player and saying a word out loud. Every time someone hits the ball, they must say a word that is associated, for example flower, yellow, sun, cloud, rain, etc.

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## 2. Skip a Rhyme

Learn a new poem or rhyme, or use one of your favourites. Say it out loud whilst you skip along to the rhythm. You could even create your own rhyme to skip along to.

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## 3. Corners

Lay out cones and label them each with a different word class, for example noun, verb, adjective. You can choose word classes that you have been learning about with your teacher. One person then shouts out a word, and the other players must run to the cone that matches. For example, if the player shouted dog, everyone would run to NOUN.

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## 4. Scrabble Run

Start by laying out a selection of phonics mats on the floor and covering them up with cones. Split your group into equal teams. One person at a time from each team must run, uncover a grapheme and take it back to their group. The next person then runs to find another mat. Keep taking turns to collect graphemes until you can make a word. The winning team can either be the first team to make a word or the team with the most words at the end.

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## 5. Sentence Catch

Stand in a circle. One person starts by throwing the ball to another person and saying a word to start the sentence. Each person that catches the ball must say another word before passing the ball on. Build up your words into sentences and eventually a story. Don't forget, some people might need to say a type of punctuation to close a sentence too!

