

Ideas for supporting children with Phonics at Home


Sound Recognition Activities

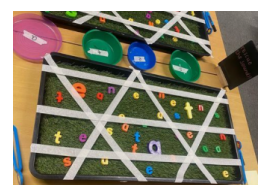
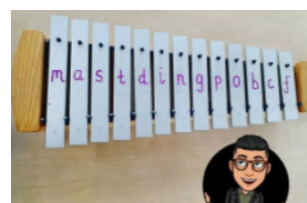
- **Speed minute** - use the sounds (flashcards) they know at first and count how many sounds they read correctly in 1 minute. If they get a sound wrong just say the correct sound and ask them to repeat it back to you. Count how many they got right, see if they can beat their score next time.
- **Initial sound matching** - use a sound they know and ask them to match the objects to the sound. You could also practise oral blending- you say find me the b-a-t.



- **Matching objects to initial sound** - get a tray of sand and put some objects in it which start with the sound they have been learning. The child has to match the object to the initial sound. *Avoid doing all the sounds at once; just the ones they have been working on.*



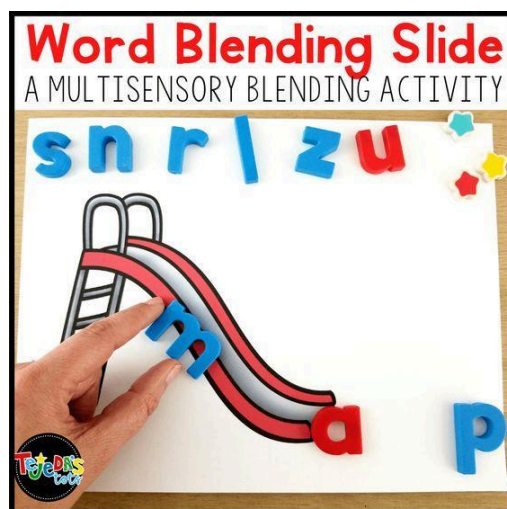
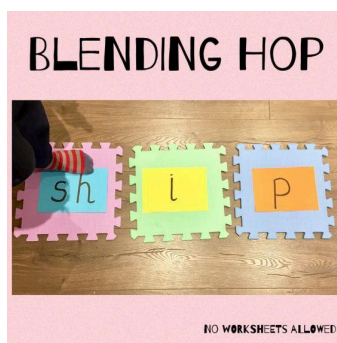
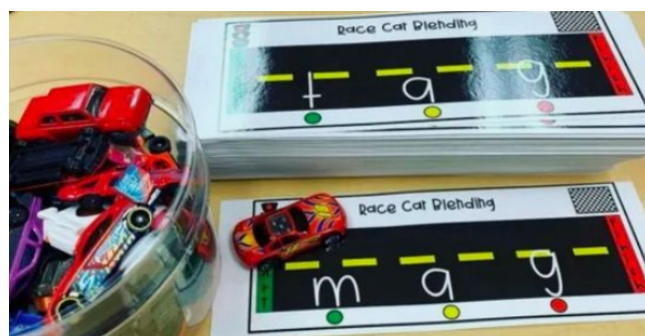
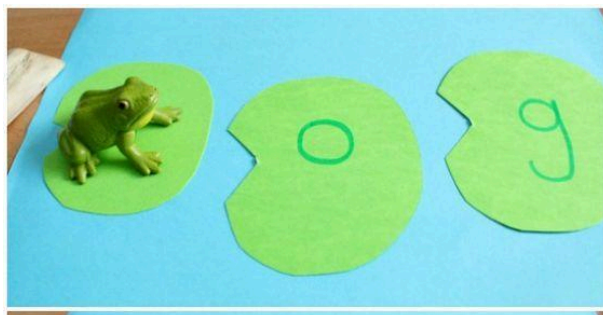
- Look at the pictures and match the magnetic letter initial sounds.
 - Matching sounds peg activity (see picture)
 - Use a spinner to spin a sound (or a pencil if you don't have a spinner)
 - Using just sounds they know rescue the magnetic letter sounds (you could adapt this by asking children to collect two letters to make the 'ch' sound)
 - **Splat the sound** - Place all the sounds they have been working on on the floor and you say a sound and they have to splat it with their hand, a fly swatter, wooden spoon or a ruler.
 - Tracing over sounds they have been practising with water - before they trace, can they say what the sound is?
 - Write sounds on paper stuck to cups (hide a small toy under a cup), they have to read the sound before checking if the toy is under the cup.
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Blending Activities

When doing these activities, just make sure the words you use include sounds they can independently recognise when shown on a flashcard. They might need you to sound out lots of times before they can blend independently and initially might need to just copy you. Here are some engaging activities to encourage them to have a go at blending.

- **Musical blending** - Use masking tape on a xylophone they have to say the sounds and then blend them.
- Put the puzzle together and blend the words (can be found on Twinkl website)



Tricky Words

Only introduce these very slowly. Here are some activities:

- **Hide a toy under the cup** - the child has to read the tricky word before lifting the cup up.
- Roll a tricky word and read it.
- **Make a tricky word using magnetic letters** - don't have too many letters out though.
- Make tricky word bracelets or watches (if the child struggles with writing, the adult could write them and the focus could be on reading the tricky words)
- **Tricky word beanbag game** - write tricky words in chalk on the floor - the child throws a bean bag onto the tricky word and then reads it.

