

## Possible things to do with your child to keep their little minds ticking over the holidays!

- Practise the keywords – play hide and seek with the words around a room – e.g. find me 'when'.
- Send postcards to your friends and family. Allow children to write the postcodes trying to encourage correct letter formations.
- Make a holiday diary of what you have been up to – make it into a scrap book so children can show it to people.
- Practise the letter sounds linking them with the names of the letters recognising both lower and upper case letters.
- When in the car encourage your child to read the number plates on cars in front – both numbers and letters.
- Read road signs.
- Look at house numbers when out and about and get your child to tell you the number. Ask them 1 more and 1 less than that number.
- Read lots of different books together – fiction and non-fiction.
- Sound out two, three and four letter words with your child.
- Play eye spy.
- Encourage children to count amounts of objects.
- As much out door play as possible.
- As many creative activities as possible – painting, cooking, play dough, dancing and making.
- Look at shapes of buildings and signs and see if children can identify shapes (over the year we will focus on many 2d shapes and the following 3d shapes – cube, cuboid, sphere, cone and pyramid).
- Encourage children to dress themselves independently all the time.
- Encourage children to do jobs around the home.
- Play memory games (put 8 objects on a tray, cover tray, take one object away while your child shuts their eyes and then ask child what is missing).
- Encourage eye contact.
- Encourage your child to tidy up properly in a set about of time (do a count down and if they manage to tidy up in set amount of time then reward it).
- When reading point to words.
- Mini beast hunts and making habitats for the mini beasts.
- Encourage good sharing and manners and reward good behaviour.
- Play number games counting forwards and backwards.
- Making up rhyming strings.
- Practise letter formations in lots of different things e.g. sand, gloop (corn flour and water), glitter, flour, sugar etc.
- Making up silly alliteration sentences e.g. the slimy silly snakes slithered in the swirling sand, or the Crunchy Crawling Caterpillar.
- Handling money when possible.
- Growing things e.g. Cress (it's quick and easy!!)
- Tell stories using pictures e.g. before reading a book look at the pictures and make up a story together.
- Letter hunts – e.g. find me an object beginning with 'f'.
- Visit and use your local library.