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**Support your child's
early learning at home**

The Hackney logo, featuring a stylized 'H' icon followed by the word 'Hackney' in a bold, sans-serif font.

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**Support your child's
early learning at home**

This booklet will help you to support your child with Literacy and Maths at home. This booklet. Insert short intro about booklet. 24 words.

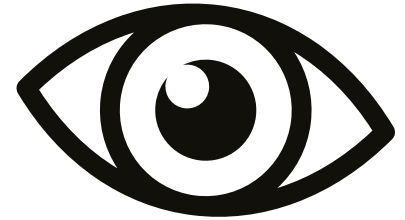
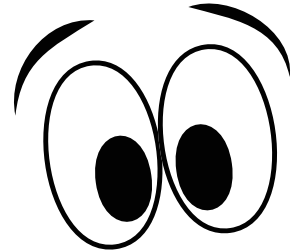
Literacy tips heading

Make it fun. Language can be taught through playing games; the focus is on participation and enjoyment in a relaxed situation.

This will support their speaking and listening skills and have the potential to enhance self-esteem through providing a way for them to be successful.

Ten Literacy tips

- 1. Sing nursery rhymes and songs**
Children become tuned into letter sounds when listening to and singing nursery rhymes and songs.
- 2. Read, Read, Read**
Read together every day for at least 10 minutes. Point out letters at the beginning of words as you read. Make connections that your child will remember: 'look, there's a S. Ssss, S like your name'. Take turns in reading: one word each, one line each, one page each...
- 3. Play 'I spy' game**
using the letter sound rather than letter name. This will help your child focus on the beginning sound.
- 4. Sing the Jolly Phonics songs**
You can find the songs on YouTube. You can play it while in the car or use it as a movement break if you add the dance moves.



5. Put magnetic letters on the fridge or use a tin tray

You can buy these items from Poundland. Have fun together making words or leaving notes to each other. Start with 3 letter words such as : cat, pig. As you choose the letters, say the sounds and then the word. For example: 'c-a-t...cat'

6. Read outside

Look out for signs and labels in the street and in shops that your child will be able to read. Example: Bus Stop.

7. Tricky words!

Some words can't be 'sounded out' using letter sounds. These have to be learnt to be read by sight. Practice reading them and finding them in books. The first words to learn are: I, no, go, to, into. Use the most common 100 words sheet to practice writing every day.



8.

Write together

Write shopping lists, birthday cards, letters and stories together. Use correct letter formation from the start. Practice handwriting every day. Use the wipe clean word books that you can find in the shops. Play Hangman.

9.

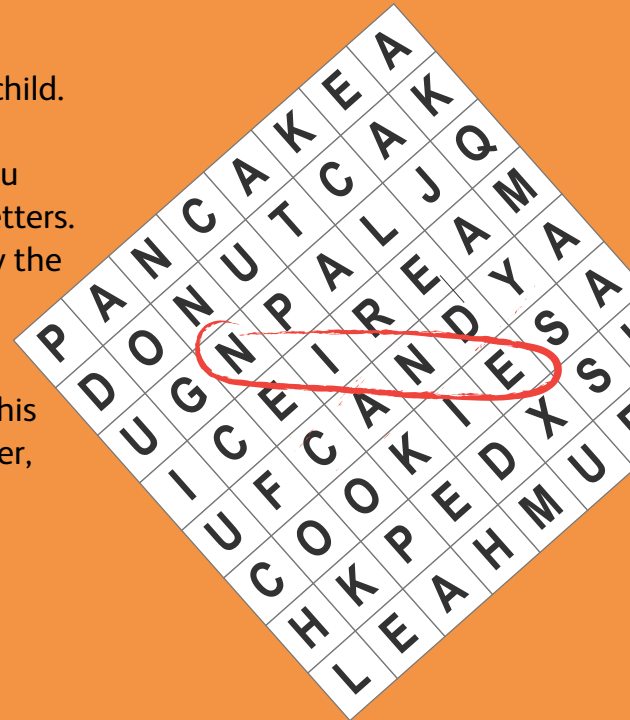
Play Letters Bingo

Use the magnetic letters to play games with your child. Make bingo sheets starting with 4 letters and keep adding them until you have up to 12 on a page. You can complicate things by using capital and small letters. Show the capital letter and ask the child to identify the small letter on their bingo sheet.

10.

Use a children's dictionary

to learn a new word every day. You can introduce this task with something that you do daily: before dinner, after teeth brushing time or early in the morning at breakfast.



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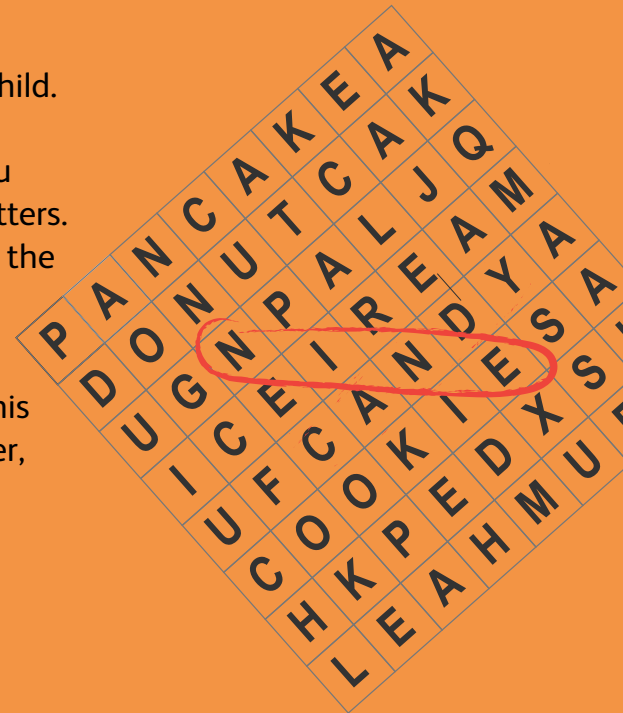
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LITERACY TOP TIPS



Try to do certain activities at the same time every day

Children feel more comfortable and confident when they know what to expect.

For example: you could play songs every day after school and read a story every evening before bed time.

If you have space in the house, you can create an English corner where you keep anything connected to English: books, DVDs, games, things that the child made or wrote.

Repetition is essential – children often need to hear or read words and phrases many times before they feel ready to produce them themselves.



Maths tips heading

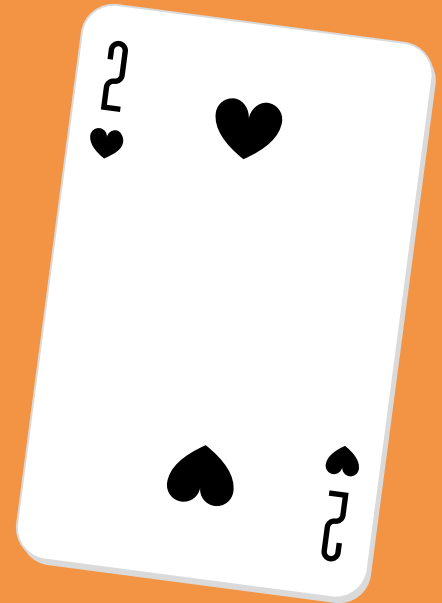
Mathematical games are a must-have as they are engaging, fun and motivating. Playing games inspires mathematical thinking as children find different strategies for solving maths problems.

They provide opportunities for practice and when played repeatedly, games can support the development of numeracy and build a deeper understanding of concepts and processes.

Board games are great for developing skills. Try games like Connect 4, Snakes and Ladders, Dominoes.

Ten Maths tips

- 1. Play games that use counting**
Hopscotch, Hide and seek, What's the time Mr Wolf, skipping or playing with hula hoops are great places to start. Bingo, SNAP, 'I spy' with numbers and shapes are also easy games to access.
- 2. Play with cards**
Take 2 cards and add the numbers together, the player with the highest number wins. Try it with subtraction, multiplication and division too.
- 3. Play with blocks or containers**
Get them to think about size, colour, shape, weight and texture. Create patterns and structures, ask them questions like: 'How many blocks can you pile up without them falling down?', 'Which container holds more sand, water or beads' or 'How many socks can you fit in the box'.



4. **Play the Clue Game**

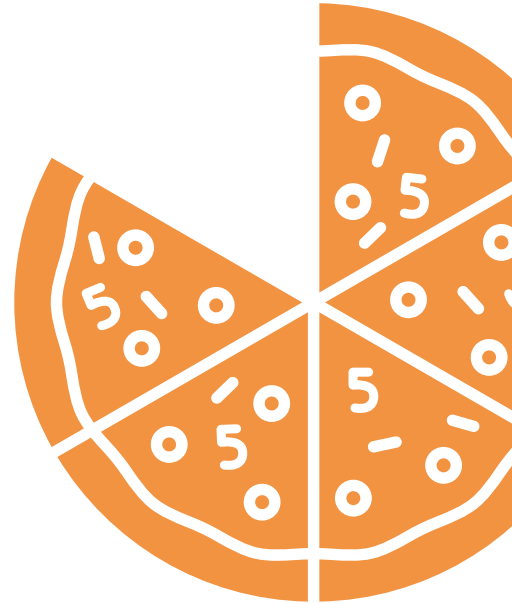
Pick an object and give your child clues to that object by using directional language, such as up, down, over, under, between, through, beside, behind, in front of and on top of. Make the game more challenging by giving two part directions: 'It's on top of the bed and to the right of the table'. Take turns and ask them to give you directions.

5. **Go on a hunt**

Look for numbers on doors, buses, cars, signs, at the shop... anywhere. Talk about what the numbers mean. Count anything and everything. How many cars are on the street? How many houses have a concrete fence? Shape hunting in the park are also fun. How many circles, triangles or squares can you find? Are the shapes 2D or 3D? Look for patterns or use sticks to create shapes. How many triangles can you make with 9 sticks?

6. **Dance, watch or practice sport**

Create a dance routine remembering to count and keep the rhythm. Sports are a great opportunity for the children to think about speed, distance, scores, and time.



7.

Talk about time

How long does it take to walk to the shop, or school?
Set the timer together, find out what time do you need to leave the house to catch the 12.18 pm bus.

8.

Talk about the shape and size of objects

eg. Big car, round ball, tall boy. Look online for interesting facts, like the tallest and shortest people, the biggest or smallest building etc. Ask questions like 'pass me the biggest box' 'what shape is the pizza slice?' or 'which is the shortest shoe lace?'.

9.

Solve maths problems at home

Work out 'how many altogether' and 'how many more'. Ask them how many apples to buy from the shop so that everyone in the house can eat 2. Practice time tables by counting in multiples eg. 4, 8, 12, 16 or 3, 6, 9, 12.

10.

Play 'think of a number'

Think of a number between 0–100 and get them to guess what it is. They can ask questions like 'is it less than 20? More than 5?'. Take turns.



MATHS TOP TIPS



Be positive about maths

Try not to say things like ‘I can’t do maths’ or ‘I hated maths at school’ – your child may start to think like that themselves.

Point out the maths in everyday life. Include your child in activities involving numbers and measuring, such as shopping, cooking and travelling.

Praise your child for effort rather than for being ‘clever’. This shows them that by working hard they can always improve.

Useful online resources



[bbc.com/bitesize/subjects](https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/subjects)

[busythings.co.uk](https://www.busythings.co.uk)

[ictgames.com](https://www.ictgames.com)

learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/helping-your-child

[letters-and-sounds.com](https://www.letters-and-sounds.com)

[mathszone.co.uk](https://www.mathszone.co.uk)

[nationalnumeracy.org.uk](https://www.nationalnumeracy.org.uk)

[primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk](https://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk)

[topmarks.co.uk](https://www.topmarks.co.uk)



For further help and advice contact
Hackney Virtual School:

virtualschoolteam@hackney.gov.uk

