



# How to help your child prepare for KS1 SATs

## **How to Help Your Child with Reading**

- Listening to your child read can take many forms:
- First and foremost, focus on developing an enjoyment and love of reading.
- Enjoy stories together – reading stories to your child is equally as important as listening to your child read.
- Read a little at a time but often, rather than rarely but for long periods of time!
- Talk about the story before, during and afterwards – discuss the plot, the characters, their feelings and actions, how it makes you feel, predict what will happen and encourage your child to have their own opinions.
- Look up definitions of words together – you could use a dictionary, the Internet or an app on a phone or tablet.
- All reading is valuable – it doesn't have to be just stories. Reading can involve anything from fiction and non-fiction, poetry, newspapers, magazines, football programmes, TV guides.
- Visit the local library - it's free!

## **How to Help Your Child with Writing**

- Practise and learn weekly spelling lists – make it fun!
- Encourage opportunities for writing, such as letters to family or friends, shopping lists, notes or reminders, stories or poems.
- Write together – be a good role model for writing.
- Encourage use of a dictionary to check spelling.
- Allow your child to use a computer for word processing, which will allow for editing and correcting of errors without lots of crossing out.
- Remember that good readers become good writers! Identify good writing features when reading (e.g. vocabulary, sentence structure, punctuation).
- Show your appreciation: praise and encourage, even for small successes!

Y2 children are expected to be able to spell many of the Y2 common exception words. To be greater depth at writing, they need to be able to spell most of them. Here are some tips on helping your child memorise spellings.

### **1. Spelling bingo**

The old ones are the best! Playing games that help them to recognise the spelling words on sight can really help. The more they see a word the more familiar it becomes and the more likely they are to remember it; if they can visualise it, they are more likely to spell it correctly.

Print and cut out the words your child has to learn. Draw out a bingo board and write some of the spellings in the boxes. This works best with more than one player, so see if you can rope in someone else to play. Every time your child 'gets' a spelling word, go through the spelling together and then cover it and ask them to spell it again.

### **2. Spelling pairs**

This classic memory game is a great way to get them recognising and remembering words. Draw or print a word grid and write each spelling word in a new box. You will need to write each word twice (each in a separate box). Cut them out, making sure you have two of each spelling word. Then turn them over and mix them up, ensuring they are organised randomly. Challenge your child to turn over two pieces of paper and then read each word. Are they a pair? If not, turn them back over and repeat this until they find matching pairs. Once they have found a pair, look at the spelling together and then ask your child to spell the word without looking.

### **3. Race against the clock**

If your child is competitive, see if you can motivate them by introducing an element of challenge to the world of practising spellings. Using your stopwatch on your phone, time your child as you call out the spelling words and they write them. Make a note of their time and score and then on the following day, challenge them to smash their personal best.

## How to Help Your Child with Maths

- Play times tables games.
- Play mental maths games including counting in different amounts, forwards and backwards.
- Encourage opportunities for telling the time.
- Encourage opportunities for counting coins and money, e.g. finding amounts or calculating change when shopping.
- Look for numbers on street signs, car registrations and anywhere else.
- Look for examples of 2D and 3D shapes around the home.
- Identify, weigh or measure quantities and amounts in the kitchen or in recipes.
- Play games involving numbers or logic, such as dominoes, card games, draughts or chess.

Y2 children are required to have instant recall of the multiplication and division facts for the 2X, 5X and 10X tables. We will be teaching multiplication and division skills but to have instant recall the children need to practise regularly in the same way as they need to practise their reading skills.

### Useful websites and resources

- [www.topmarks.co.uk](http://www.topmarks.co.uk)
- [www.sumdog.co.uk](http://www.sumdog.co.uk)
- [www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary](http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/primary)
- [www.ttrockstars.co.uk](http://www.ttrockstars.co.uk)
- [www.home.oxfordowl.co.uk](http://www.home.oxfordowl.co.uk)
- Sounds-Write stories (green book)
- Sounds-Write reading books
- KS1 CGP revision books