

# School work and homework

Dear parents wishing you and yours a very Happy Easter

I know things are very different this year, but I hope everyone is keeping well in very unusual circumstances

I have attached some activities which the children enjoy in school, also I have attached websites that are very useful.

Core subjects like numeracy and communication and language are studied daily.

If possible do 2/3 numeracy and literacy tasks daily.

They are all short 10/15 minute tasks be it a game, a worksheet, ICT or a practical.

Feelings and emotions lesson is very important because the children are missing their friends and have a lack of understanding of what's going on at the moment.

Only give as much time as you have available each day.

These are simple and easy strategies and methodologies to help your child

Cheers

David

## Websites

<https://www.worksheetfun.com/>

<https://www.starfall.com/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

<http://www.supercoloring.com/>

<https://www.pinterest.com/>

<https://curriculumonline.ie/Primary/>

<https://www.mathsisfun.com/>

<http://www.kidsmathgamesonline.com/>

<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/>

<https://www.digipuzzle.net/education/>

<https://ncse.ie/online-resources>

# Communication and language

## 1) Learn to recognise and name the letters of the alphabet and different words

### Create a Wow Word Wall

Flashcards of different letters and words on a poster that your child will learn daily. The wall will be added to weekly. You can add words from High frequency word list

**Alphabet song** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75p-N9YKqNo>

**Core vocabulary** list for the month (animals)

Zoo animals, elephant, giraffe, monkey, crocodile

**High frequency words**

<http://www.highfrequencywords.org/first-100-high-frequency-word-lists.html>

Learn maybe 5/6 of these words a day and put them in context

## 1) Listen to, enjoy and respond to stories, nursery rhymes, poems and songs

Pick a theme every week/month: Animals:

Make connections with the book, Talk about the story with your child, look at the illustrations

### Books

Monkey puzzle

Zog and the flying farm

The Wonky Donkey

Rabbit and the bear

Any book you have at home relating to animals

Books are available to stream on google books

<https://books.google.com>

### **Audible Stories | Audible.com**

Free stories for kids of all ages. Audible Stories is a free website where kids of all ages can listen to hundreds of Audible audio titles across six different languages—English, Spanish, French, German, Italian and Japanese—for free, so they can keep learning, dreaming and just being kids.

stories.audible.co

Amazon today canceled the subscription of books and audio stories for children and students of all ages as long as schools are closed, kids everywhere can instantly stream an incredible collection of stories, including titles across six different languages, that will help them continue dreaming, learning, and just being kids.

All stories are free to stream on your desktop, laptop, phone or tablet using the following link <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>.

### **Play and Games:**

Singing action songs and rhymes relating to animals.

Youtube....O Mac Donald has a farm

Hey Diddle Diddle

Five little monkeys

Ba Ba Black Sheep

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-30-minute-medley/zbhtjvh>

### **Charades**

#### **Guess the animal sound game**

Zoo animals – elephant, giraffe, tiger, lion

Charades involving action verbs.. surfing, knitting, singing, writing, running, jogging..... parent pretends to be washing, cleaning, folding, hanging, watching etc.. and the child had to guess

Action verb displays can be found on google images

<https://www.amazon.in/Educational-Charts-Action-Verbs-Na/dp/9381565724>

### 1) Core Vocab for the month

Animals...zoo animals, elephant, tiger, lion, camel  
Vocabulary associated with Easter.. egg, rabbit,

Discuss animals on the farm and in the zoo  
Discuss birds and fish

Where do the animals live?  
What do they eat  
What colour are they?

### 2) Use of pictures as a stimulus

[https://www.google.com/search?hl=en&tbm=isch&source=hp&biw=1366&bih=657&ei=yiWDXv7qAdLBgQab9IngCA&q=cartoon+of+a+zoo&oq=cartoon+of+a+zoo&gs\\_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzICCAAyBggAEAgQHjIGCAAQCBAeMgYLABAIEB4yBggAEAgQHjoFCAAQgwFQngVYpIgbYNePAWgPcAB4AIABjgKIAcwckgEHMTguMTMuMpgBAKABAaoBC2d3cy13aXotaW1nsAEA&scient=img&ved=0ahUKEwj-9\\_e6ysToAhXSYMAKHRt6AowQ4dUDCAY&uact=5](https://www.google.com/search?hl=en&tbm=isch&source=hp&biw=1366&bih=657&ei=yiWDXv7qAdLBgQab9IngCA&q=cartoon+of+a+zoo&oq=cartoon+of+a+zoo&gs_lcp=CgNpbWcQAzICCAAyBggAEAgQHjIGCAAQCBAeMgYLABAIEB4yBggAEAgQHjoFCAAQgwFQngVYpIgbYNePAWgPcAB4AIABjgKIAcwckgEHMTguMTMuMpgBAKABAaoBC2d3cy13aXotaW1nsAEA&scient=img&ved=0ahUKEwj-9_e6ysToAhXSYMAKHRt6AowQ4dUDCAY&uact=5)

Look, select and name pictures and objects relating to Animals (tree, zoo, dog and cat)  
Use cartoons on google images or illustrations in books.

### 3) Receptive and expressive language

Identify real or recorded sounds—telephone, ambulance, alarm clock, rain falling, car horns blowing, dogs barking, babies crying

Play 'Simon says'. - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZyX2lvRPqIA>

Play 'I spy'

# Reading

## 1) Books

Using books at home or online

Different genres

Easter stories

Animal fiction

Animal information texts

### **Books**

Monkey puzzle

Zog and the flying farm

The Wonky Donkey

Rabbit and the bear

Any book you have at home relating to animals

Books are available to stream on google books

<https://books.google.com>

Make connections with the text

Talk about the illustrations

Letter and word formation

Amazon today canceled the subscription of books and audio stories for children and students of all ages as long as schools are closed, kids everywhere can instantly stream an incredible collection of stories, including titles across six different languages, that will help them continue dreaming, learning, and just being kids.

All stories are free to stream on your desktop, laptop, phone or tablet using the following link <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

## 2) Home Library Usage:

Participate in the handling of books: opening, closing, turning pages, pointing to a picture (1) looking at words and reading (2)

### **Reading guidelines**

The child will hold a book the right way up.

Turn several pages at a time to find named picture.

Bring a book to be read. Have a favourite book.

Listen to stories from a picture book. Name objects in picture books.

Name common objects in a picture.

Say appropriate animal sound when presented with the picture

# Written

- 1) Draw around shape templates: trace outline with finger, draw around shape with finger dipped in paint, draw around/inside the shape with drawing implement. Your child can also use a highlighter
- 2) Make marks that he/she calls writing: engage in pretend writing. Use scribble writing and some letter-like shapes
- 3) Recognise letters in his/her own name or a friend's name, and letters in the environment.
- 4) Sort words and letters from numbers. (advanced)
- 5) Be aware that each letter makes a sound. Play I spy....something beginning with D.....door, doll,drum,desk
- 6) Know the sounds of the letters in his name. Write the letters in his name.

**Express feelings in writing or illustration, be it happiness sadness excitement pride anticipation**

Illustrate experiences: enjoyable funny, annoying, frightening, sad

## **Free Exploration of Materials:**

Developing pencil grip by tracing and writing (2) other children will make random marks and experiment with vivid colours/different textures (1). Draw with finger in a sand tray/ paint with water on a blackboard. Some children will be able to copy words and sentences that a parent writes.

## **Orientation program**

Oral stimulation, facial massage, blowing, licking, microphone time

# Numeracy

## Incidental maths

Count out a number of items up to five in familiar situations: 'Give me two crayons.', 'Put three bricks on the table.', 'Count the people in the room.', 'Count out five paint-brushes for painting lesson.'

## Concrete materials

Addition using fingers, dice, counters and stars to count up to 10 and 20  
Addition on magnetic board if you have one  
Counting pebbles in a jar.

## Games

Participate in group number games: Simon says 'Show me five fingers', 'Take two steps back', (playing skittles) 'How many did you knock down?'

Participate in board games: Ludo, Snakes and ladders, Dominoes, use board games with a dice, count along a track.

## Colours

Green, white and orange.....finding these colours in nature and in your environment.  
Find the colour blue outside  
Find the colour red in my bedroom etc..

Colour by number worksheets

<https://www.worksheetfun.com/category/grades/preschool/coloring-2/color-by-number/>

## Story

listening to stories that involve use of number: 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', 'Noah's Ark', etc.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY>

Rhyme

Perform actions with an adult/ another student for number rhymes and stories: 'Five Little Speckled Frogs'. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TtX8yVEFO-w>

## ICT games

Play ICT games –

Topmarks counting games

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years/counting>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/teddy-numbers>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/learning-to-count/underwater-counting>

Kids maths online

<https://ie.ixl.com/math/sr-infants>

<http://www.kidsmathgamesonline.com/>

Interactive jigsaws

<https://thejigsawpuzzles.com/>

<https://www.jigsawplanet.com/>

Digipuzzle.net

## **Number**

Write numerals in the sand tray, with paint or crayon, with a pencil: make numeral shapes from playdough, papier maché.

Put number flashcards in order.

Fantastic maths worksheets on counting, addition, subtraction and multiplication at [worksheetsfun.com](http://worksheetsfun.com)

Addition

<https://www.worksheetfun.com/category/math-worksheetfunmenu/addition/addition-1-more/>

Subtraction

<https://www.worksheetfun.com/category/math-worksheetfunmenu/subtraction/subtraction-1-digit/>

Multiplication

<https://www.worksheetfun.com/category/math-worksheetfunmenu/multiplication-math/multiplication-repeated-addition/>

Free Resources

[www.twinkl.ie/offer](http://www.twinkl.ie/offer) and enter the code IRLWINKLHELPS for free membership to this educational website for one month. resources from juniors to 6th class

## **Play Shop**

Set up a little grocery/mini supermarket with tins and packets. If you have a play till, set up a checkout table and they can take it in turns to be the

checkout person or the shopper. The ironing board made a great checkout in my youth! Have some bags ready to put the "purchases" in.

# Personal care

Washing hands and face

Using toothbrush to clean teeth

Maintain personal hygiene routines independently

Students will watch social stories and ICT

Covid – 19 cartoon for kids

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PkUICIFE45M>

Wash your hands

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDHJW4r3eIE>

## **Talk and discussion**

Create a basic mind map on the ways you can keep up with personal hygiene

## **ICT**

Watch a social story about toileting and hygiene in the bathroom (all)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aoNoB9Lj5UE>

## **Role play**

Parent models aspects of basic hygiene.. washing and drying hands, flushing the toilet

**Illustrate** : Covid 19 poster

## **Health professionals**

Recognise some people who are concerned with health and welfare: doctor, nurse, speech therapist, pharmacist, optician, dentist.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5dCe6kWYFvk>

# SPHE/SESE

Emotions and feelings

Chart - <https://www.pinterest.ie/pin/327073991684715420/>

<https://www.twinkl.ie/resource/t-s-1133-feelings-chart>

Create your own emotions cards, Scared, Funny, Friendly, Silly

## Facial expressions

Identify a range of feelings: respond to a request to show a particular feeling by using an appropriate facial expression,

## Participate in the care of the immediate and local environment

### Talk and discussion

Having a conversation about the environment and being eco-friendly

### Story

Watch a story about recycling

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jQ7y\\_qQYUA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jQ7y_qQYUA)

### Fieldwork

Become aware of other habitats through field trips: a park, a wood, the beach

### Active learning

Turning off the tap to save water

Collecting paper or cans for recycling

Cutting the lawn

## Identify or name body parts using correct anatomical language

Label body parts on ICT

[http://resources.hwb.wales.gov.uk/VTC/our\\_bodies/eng/Introduction/whiteboard.htm](http://resources.hwb.wales.gov.uk/VTC/our_bodies/eng/Introduction/whiteboard.htm)

## Games

Participate in games such as 'Simon says', 'Hokey Pokey'.  
Make jigsaws from pictures of people cut up  
Play with toys with moving parts

## ARTS

Watch a presentation about animals in different habitats.....  
youtube/film/cartoon

Farm animals - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zXEq-QO3xTg>

Draw the children's favourite farm animal

Supercoloring.com

<http://www.supercoloring.com/collections/animals-coloring-pages>

### **Brainstorming**

What the children know about animals, colour, what they eat, where they live

Talk and discussion about the children's pets

Animal face paints

Most kids love getting their faces painted, so it's worth having some good face paint in the house. We use ours for school dress up days, holidays, Halloween, game days and lots more!

Use your rainy days as time to practice new patterns and styles – you never know when you might need a back up activity for a playdate or an at-home birthday party.

# Drama

## **Mindfulness**

Relaxation music - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WUXEeAXywcY>

Animal sounds - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gg1AwImc86M>

## **Nursery rhymes and song**

Focus on nursery rhymes which have an animal theme.....

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-30-minute-medley/zbhtjhw>

Animal rhymes - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UGI-R720E-k>

## **Charades**

Animal sounds and animal movements

## **Narration**

Parent will read stories about animals (Book selection)

## **Play Dress-Up**

You can let the kids use their own dress-up things, if they have them, but more fun is to let them loose in your closet! Ideally drag out some of your older clothes (not your favourites!) and some costume jewellery or accessories – your little one will love running around in them.

# MUSIC

## **Guided discovery**

Creating instruments from everyday objects... cartons, lego, sand  
Using body percussion as sound, marching, clapping, whistling (all)

## **Free exploration of materials**

Make sounds with drums, triangles, tambourines to accompany animal and habitat sounds

Use simple instruments to accompany songs and nursery rhymes  
Discover ways of making sounds using body percussion

## Make a Playlist and Have a Disco

Create your own playlists of your favourite songs. Why not pick 5 songs each that you all like, to add to your playlist, then put it on shuffle and have a disco in the house?

Move back the furniture, and get moving! It's a great way to get some physical exercise in on a rainy day, and you could also use your playlist for some limbo dancing, musical statues, best and worst dancer competitions, and lots more!

## Make Some Music

Get all your instruments out or make some homemade versions, using kitchen utensils (most popular in our house are pots, wooden spoons, tins, spatula) and make some "music"

# Physical Education

**Children's workout** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oc4QS2USKmk>

## **Games – Ball handling**

Develop and practise further ball handling skills:

Rolling a small ball at a target

Chest passing from a stationary position using a large ball

Catching a ball by cradling (scooping)

Bounce-passing from a stationary position using a large or small ball

Throwing under-arm and overarm at a large target

Throwing over-arm to a partner using a small ball

Receiving (catching) a pass at various heights.

## **Fine motor activities**

Threading, jenga, theraputty, drawing, pegboards, balls, lego, jigsaws, scribbling, writing

## **Fine motor activities**

Threading, jenga, theraputty, drawing, pegboards, balls, lego, jigsaws, scribbling, writing

## **Gross motor activities**

Hall, throwing, running

Assessment: Pupils work, teacher observation, direct questioning, level of engagement

Warm up games and stretching

Movement to music

## **Yoga**

Online yoga classes for kids have been popular for the last couple of years, combining physical exercise with mindfulness, there are loads of child-orientated videos that make yoga fun for kids – using stories, characters and playfulness.

## **Set Up an Indoor Obstacle Course**

Create an indoor obstacle course with plenty of climbing, crawling, hopping, jumping, falling on cushions/mattresses and let the kids go mad and try to beat each other's times round the course.



