



As your child explores the texture of shaving foam, pasta shapes or foamy water, introduce words that may be new to them such as *smooth*, *frothy*, *crunchy*.



For further information, please do not hesitate to contact :

Letters & Sounds



'*Weeee!*' Encourage your child to vocalise as they go down the slide.



Pitter, patter, drip, drop, squelch, splosh, splash!

Voice Sounds

Letters & Sounds

In Early Years settings children learn Communication & Language (CL) and Literacy (L) through lots of hands-on, play based activities.

To support the teaching of CLL many settings use a phonics teaching programme called Letters and Sounds. This is split into 6 phases.

Phase 1

Phase 1 is vitally important as it lays the foundations for reading and writing. During this on-going phase your child will learn to:

- have fun with sounds
- listen carefully
- speak confidently to adults and children
- develop their vocabulary
- tune into sounds
- listen and remember sounds
- talk about sounds
- understand that spoken words are made up of different sounds



Provide lots of opportunities for your child to make marks. Give them a paper and pen as you are writing your shopping list.

Voice Sounds

This is part of Phase 1 and is about the differences in vocal sounds, listening out for characters in a story and responding appropriately. e.g. making the 'ch, ch' sound every time they hear the word 'train'.

You can support your child by trying some of the ideas below. The activities should be fun, so give your child plenty of encouragement and cuddles when you play with them. Smiles and praise will help them develop a sense of achievement and build their confidence - a vital skill for future learning.



Phase 1 activities are all oral (spoken) - your child does not have to match

Encourage your child to mimic water noises with sounds such as *drip, bubble, bubble, swoosh*.

Ways you can support your child at home

- **Trumpets** - Make amplifiers (trumpet shapes) from simple cones of paper or lightweight card and experiment by making different noises through the cones. e.g. wail of a siren, the honk of a fog horn, a *peep, peep, peep* of a bird.
- **Guess the song** - Sing songs you know to 'la, la, la', and ask your child to guess the song.
- **Silly rhymes** - Say familiar rhymes in different ways e.g. fast, slow, high, low, using a funny, grumpy, happy voice, whispering, growling, shouting, squeaking.
- **Who is it?** - Play a guessing game. Several children or adults hide behind the settee/a sheet, while one stays in front. Take it in turns to talk about yourself e.g. *My name is..., I like singing*. The person in front has to guess who is speaking.

Remember: Speaking and listening are the foundations for reading and writing