

**Learning can only happen when a child is interested. If he's not interested, it's like throwing marshmallows at his head and calling it eating.**

I saw this quote this week and it made me chuckle...home learning can be challenging but home learning with a child who has additional needs can be a whole different experience!

Our teachers are working hard to make sure that the learning they set for your child is right **for them** and addresses their needs, their interests and their targets. However, we can only see if it is working if you let us know.

So many of you have been in contact with us this week to ask for advice, seek support and even ask for more work! This is all wonderful – we are in this together and **you are not alone.**

**We are here to help you to help your child.**

Good morning,

Everyone loves play-doh! Here is a link of how to ***make your own play doh at home*** – we love making it in school too! <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/playdough-recipe>

***Using play doh to practise numbers and letters is good fun too!***



*Makaton is a language programme that uses symbols, signs and speech to enable people to communicate. It supports the development of essential communication skills such as attention and listening, comprehension, memory, recall and organisation of language and expression. We use it every day in our school.*

Mrs Smith has put on a video on our school facebook page for 'I can sing a rainbow' – (we know that children love rhymes and singing!).

We know how much they love ***listening to stories*** so don't forget that our very own Mrs Jackson puts a story reading video on our facebook page too – perfect for some relaxing time.

Mrs Driver has been posting videos of relaxation and meditation techniques on our school facebook page – they will be ones that should be familiar to the children and are used regularly in school. It might be lovely to give them a try 😊

Language development and communication is key and we know that 'active' learning works well.

A few ideas to have a go with this week 😊

<p>Responds to instructions involving a two-part sequence.</p>	<p>Play a 'shopping' game. Set out some items in your pretend 'shop' and ask your child to remember the items that you have requested on the shopping list. They can go to the 'shop' and put the items in their bag and bring them 'home' to you.</p> <p>If you write a list each time, you and your child can read them when they return 'home' and tick them off.</p> <p>The list can get longer and longer; how many items can they remember? For example, write '2 potatoes' first and let your child go to the 'shop'. Return and check their bag for the items and tick them off the list.</p> <p>Put the potatoes back and write a second list, for example 2 potatoes and three apples and so on. The game continues.</p>	
<p>Can describe self in positive terms and talk about abilities.</p>	<p>Make an 'I can...' book together. Write the title 'I can...' on the front and then on each page write something your child is able to do. You can scribe your child's words, saying each letter/word as you write, or they could write independently if they are able to. They can also have the option to draw a picture on each page of the things they can do.</p>	<p>Homemade book/s. For example, a long piece of paper folded to make a zig-zag book, a book that is cut and stapled, fold paper, punch holes and tie with ribbon or string, pens or pencils</p>
<p>Begins to break the flow of speech into words.</p>	<p>Make a story map with your child. Draw a large road on a piece of wallpaper or flattened out cardboard box. Plot the story from beginning to end along the road. It could be a well-known story or one you make up together. You can write the words for your child and they can write some if they are able. They can add objects to help tell the story, for example, a house they've made from Lego.</p>	<p>Roll of wallpaper. Pens, toys such as dolls house furniture, construction sets, soft toys</p>

### **ALICE in WONDERLAND:**

([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r\\_l5ybjaOyM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_l5ybjaOyM)) is a version to share with children too)

### **Alice's Tea Party**

Organise a tea party with the children. Guests could be members of the household, and perhaps some favourite toys – you could make it a teddy bear's picnic if you prefer. With the children, you could design a menu which the children could then write up for the guests and together you could make the tea. How does the menu take account of the invited characters?



Writing opportunities might include invitations, thank you notes, and possibly even letters of apology for bad manners, small accidents and other issues!

- **Building a fort**

Now might be a good time to resurrect or redeploy the time-honoured art of building a fort (It could be something as simple as a blanket draped over a table which the children can get underneath). The children could make shields and swords – designing their own crest of course – and role play defending their fort from adult invaders! Children could create warning signs to keep the adults out – explaining what the adults should be scared of!

This could even be ongoing (for small periods of time) over a number of days. The children could write diary entries being trapped in the fort, or perhaps the adults being captured could write diary entries whilst in prison! These could be very short, or could even be recorded – a bit like the big brother diary room!

- Division is Maths is always a struggle point for children – explore this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w2qN1tF8lyI&feature=youtu.be> and play the game with your little ones – lots of fun!
- Play 'risky!' (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9W8ys2phcmQ>) – a fun but addictive Maths game

A great vocabulary activity:

- How many Words can you make using the letters from the grid? You may only use each letter once. Can you find the 9 letter word that can be made from these letters? You might want to play this as a competitive game with a partner/in a group and set a time limit. Be warned: do not play against a seasoned Scrabble player, or be ready to introduce a requirement that all words must have 3 letters or more.

t	o	g
i	h	s
m	n	e

- The grid contains anagrams of words from the Y3/4 and Y5/6 Statutory Word List for children to unscramble. Each of these words has an unusual spelling pattern, making these words trickier to learn than some other words. The answers are given at the bottom of the grid, but should be kept from the children in the first instance. Once the word puzzle has been solved, children could underline the 'tricky' part or write it in different colours. Could they invent a mnemonic to help them remember any of the spellings? For example, **U+E stood in pairs in the queue or rhythm has your two hips moving.**

Words with tricky letters (first letter is in bold)					
fturi	edigu	amaruet	byus	mythrh	layer
fatulube	elisure	mobsly	awkdraw	rubies	cantosh
dolusher	mytess	<u>agaaolue</u>	harte	ichor	ensce
abcusee	quinate	acescunni	egorfin	anetargue	culmes
noncevenice	uegeu	anncite	eeloop	dibul	asy/pihc
hermy	negri	cutiesniff	tarwe	egonut	untime
Answers (hide from children):					
fruit, guide, amateur, busy, rhythm, early beautiful, leisure, symbol, awkward, bruise, stomach shoulder, system, language, earth/heart, choir, scene because, antique, nuisance, foreign, guarantee, muscle convenience, queue, ancient, people, build, physical, rhyme, reign, sufficient, water, tongue, minute					

Remember we **love** hearing from you all and seeing pictures and examples of learning – we miss you all!

**“Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean”**

Best wishes and stay safe,

Miss Haynes 😊