



4th May 2020

Message to Parents

I hope that you are all well. Please remember to send photos or messages from the children to nursery@coleridgeprimary.net. It's been so lovely hearing from some of you. For this week's remote learning, I have included a listening game for the children to play on Twinkl. You will need to create a free account if you haven't already got one, to be able to access the game. There are lots of other free resources on there for you to use.

The reason I have included a listening game is to help develop your child's early reading skills. Before children start learning to identify the letter sounds, they must be confident in hearing sounds first. It is important that children are given opportunities to hear and make different sounds before they begin linking the letters with their sounds. Children begin to look at letters and their sounds at the beginning of Reception, when most children are developmentally ready. Some may be ready sooner, however it is important that they do not skip the hearing sounds stage as this is an essential skill to have when beginning to sound out words when reading and writing.

Here are a few ideas of things that you can do on a daily basis, to ensure that children are getting lots of opportunities to listen and distinguish between different sounds.

Play 'I spy' using initial letter sounds or ask your child to pass you things beginning with a letter (e.g. b for banana).

Play speaking like a robot (the children are familiar with me doing this at Nursery!) They have to guess what you are saying for example, c – a – t, b – u – g. Try giving an instruction, c-a-n y-o-u f-e-t-ch m-e a ...

Play 'What's in the bag?' game. Collect 5 objects that make a sound such as keys, bell, crisp packet. Put them in a bag and make the sound. Children have to guess what the object is.

There are many guess the sounds games to play online. Try this one with your child:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n1m4h79JZso>

Useful Websites and Articles

Phonics Play Phase 1 activities <https://new.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/1/welcome-to-the-zoo>

Letters and Sounds is the program we follow at Coleridge to teach Phonics. In Nursery we teach Phase 1: <http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-1.html>

Best wishes,
Mrs Goodey

Headteacher Leon Choueke