

Phonics treasure- for children aged 3+

Our phonics treasure



This is an activity that can be used over a number of days and weeks and will involve many different skills.

Resources:

- Loose parts - big, medium and small items (find objects at home you would like to play with);
- Box or chest;
- Glue;
- Fabric squares or trays;
- Paints;
- Classic music (search with your children the composer you would like to listen while you are playing and exploring the activities).

Day 1

Create a treasure box with your children. Promote a space where they can explore a different kind of materials and use their imagination. Encourage them to use the scissor (with supervision) and to explore many textures during this art and craft activity.

Day 2

Go for an objects hunt! Together, make a list of sounds (letters) you would like to explore. Ask your children to give you some examples and write down what they say. Then, encourage them to explore the house and to find a different kind of objects starting with the sounds you have listed before. The objects selected must go to the treasure box you have created.

Day 3

Take out each object in turn and get your children to identify each one and to tell you the sound and letter of the beginning of the word. In a piece of paper or card, encourage your children to make groups of the objects that begin with the same sound, e.g. **book, blanket, bear, bow, beans - pen, pan, pot, pompom etc.**

Day 4 onwards

This phonics exploration with loose parts can be used in a variety of way all with different learning outcomes.

- Write simple words with small items: pot, map, cat, top, net, etc;
- Encourage your children to write their name using a piece of paper, fabric squares or a tray;
- Explore the mark-making of some objects (draw/paint with a sponge, car, marbles, etc).

All of the above activities can be repeated as many times as you like over a period of time each time your child will become more familiar and confident with the sounds of the letters, matching and recognising them, all important skills in early literacy.

- Once you feel that your child is very confident with phonics you have chosen and really knows and understand them you can introduce more simple words and explore more sounds.
- Encourage your child to do these sums using real objects.

Always make these activities fun. Children learn best when they are having fun!