

Home Learning Advice – Roots No. 5

22nd May 2020



How to help children to work at home:

1. Have a routine that works for everybody.
2. Allow children to be comfortable and to move.
3. Tasks shouldn't be too long or too difficult.
4. Talk to your child about how they learn and the task they are doing.
5. Praise hard work and make it fun!

Roots Children – Years 1 & 2

When children are learning phonics and learning to read and write they need to have routines. They also need opportunities to practise the skills that they are learning with different sounds and different texts. So, some of the activities below will be becoming very familiar to you.

Phonics/Letter Sounds: Continue to practise the sounds that letters and groups of letters make. Revisit sounds and pay particular attention to the sounds that you don't think your child has remembered or can use well.

Spelling: Remember, words that cannot be sounded out are taught by using 'Say-Spell-Say'. Other spellings can be learnt by sounding out the sounds in the words and using the sound to identify the letters. Ask your child to write words from stories that they are reading or other appropriate words that come up in conversation.

Read with your child daily: Continue to read to, and have your child read to you, for at least 30 minutes each day. Your school will give you access to the Shared Stories your child is reading. Guidance for reading these is found in the document below:



Helping your child to learn?

Comprehension: While you are reading together ask many questions about what your child has read to make sure that they have understood it. There are some excellent comprehension questions on the last page of the Shared Stories.

When asking your child comprehension questions ask them to find where the answer is in the text and reread the page/section to get the answer (it is not a memory test). Remember they should then say the answer in a **full sentence**. Help them with this if necessary.

Retelling or Summarising: This is an excellent way of helping your child to understand and remember what they have read. When you have read a story together, ask your child to tell you what happened in the story. Try to get them to concentrate on the important things/events that happened. You can help them by asking questions like:

- What was the story about?
- What happened before...?
- What happened after...?
- What happened at the beginning of the story?
- What happened in the middle of the story?
- What happened at the end of the story?
- Can you tell me three important things that happened in the story?
- Can you tell the story again in a much shorter way?

Writing: You can now encourage your child to write a story of their own based on a story that they have read. For example, you could read the story of Little Red Riding Hood (link: <https://www.dltk-teach.com/rhymes/littlered/story.htm>) and ask your child to write about what they would do if they met the wolf. Make sure that your child is interested and excited about the idea as this will encourage them to write. Discuss their ideas with them before they begin to write.

Remember to help them by saying sentences together before you ask them to write. Encourage them to read back what they have written after each word or sentence. Spellings they will use will depend on how much phonics they know.

Give your child lots of encouragement and praise at each stage of the writing that they are doing.