



# Literacy – Home Learning Challenges

## Spelling

Continue to practise your spelling lists each week. Choose some spelling challenges from your home learning folder to complete once or twice a week.



Other ideas.....

- Create crossword clues for your words and have a partner guess the answers. You could use dictionary definitions to help you.
- Write a sentence or paragraph containing some or all of your words.
- Draw a picture to illustrate each spelling word and/ or create an action to go with each word.
- Play 'Guess the Word' - try to describe your word without saying it. Can a partner guess it correctly from your clues?
- Rainbow dice spelling – roll a dice to tell you how many times to write out each word. Why not use a different colour each time?
- Word hunt – how many words with this week's rule can you spot in your reading book, newspapers or magazines?

## Writing

Each week try to find time to do some writing. You can choose your own 'reasons for writing' (stories, letters to family and friends, comic strips, songs or poems) or use some of the ideas below. Any writing you do during this time away from school is equally valuable!



### Daily Diaries

Continue to keep a diary including each day's highlights. Try to describe your feelings as well as detailing what happens.

### Character Descriptions

Start off by writing descriptions of different people in your family. Within your descriptions try to include details about their appearance as well as their personality. Why not use a new paragraph for their appearance, clothes, personality etc. Try to include lots of adjectives in your writing. Next, you could create imaginary descriptions based on pictures of people from newspapers or magazines or even create your own imaginary characters. You could also create a character from a time in history your class have studied and include some historical details such as dress, hairstyles etc. If you want to go even further you could create an imaginary diary for your character, describing a day in their life.

### Instructions

Writing clear and easy to follow instructions is a special skill! Why not try to write instructions for your favourite game, different tasks you need to do around the home or even a guide for correct handwashing. Instructions should include - short sentences in order/ bossy verbs (e.g. put, stick, wash, throw) / a list of equipment / an illustration or labelled diagram/ a title.

## Vocabulary

This year we have been using WORD AWARE games and activities to build up our vocabulary.

Each week, have a go at some of these activities at home.....

- When reading texts try to pick out any new or unknown words. Have a guess at their meaning and then have a family member share their real meanings with you or find them in a dictionary.
- Create symbols and actions for new words to help you remember their meanings. Can your family guess the words from your symbols and actions?
- Create a paper doll (like the ones we made on World Book Day) to represent one of your new words. Their costumes should give big clues to the word's meaning.
- Synonym Snap – think of a basic word (e.g. small) and see how many words with similar meanings you can list (e.g. tiny, miniscule...). If you have a thesaurus these are great for finding interesting word alternatives. Top tip – adjectives and verbs work well for this! Why not create a chain of paper dolls, some bunting or a simple paper chain to 'show off' all these new word families!
- Antonym Snap – this time, how many words with opposite meanings to your basic words can you think of (e.g. small – large, enormous...)



## Reading

Continue to read your reading books which were sent home in your learning folder.

If you have completed these, try to make time to read some different text types each day – it could be your own choice of books, newspapers, magazines etc. Here are some ideas for follow up activities after you have read.....

- Literature Circle Jobs  
Each week continue to choose one Literature Circle job to complete from the list of 15 sent home. Share your completed jobs with your family and explain your ideas. Can you create your own ideas for new jobs?
- Reading Journal  
Start a Reading Journal to keep a record of all the books or texts you read during this time away from school. You could even write a mini book review for each completed book.
- Book Quiz  
If you are reading a book with a family member you could ask each other quiz questions based on the week's pages. Try to include some multiple choice or true/false/can't tell questions for a bit of fun!
- Fact Finder  
If you are reading non-fiction books, collect interesting facts from each chapter to include in a fact file, poster or short talk. Try to write out facts using your own words. You could also add pictures to illustrate the facts you have included.
- Scotland Reads  
Try out our school's popular reading buddy programme at home with a family member. See the leaflet included for more information.

