

Helping Nursery children's learning and development at home

Encourage **early mark making** in tactile materials - in flour on a work surface, shaving foam in a tray.

Encourage **fine motor development** with activities such as cutting paper and card with scissors, squeezing and squashing play dough*, threading pasta shapes onto laces or string, or fine collage (encouraging the pincer movement) with small collage pieces such as lentils or rice.

* You can make your own play dough quite easily with flour, salt and oil.

Name writing - Practice the initial sound in your name - on paper and in tactile materials too. (Children will tire from practising their pencil hold; it's great to practise in something that is not permanent so that you can rub it out and try again.)

Try tracing over your name card, or copying over writing in a lighter pen or dot letter formations. Move on to copying adult modelled letters in your name.

Numbers - we love to watch [Numberblocks](#) - lots of interesting and engaging programmes exploring number. Recite numbers as you go about your day and enjoy number rhymes and nursery rhymes. Find everyday opportunities to count together...how many forks do we need? How many pieces of banana can we cut? How many pieces would you like?

Secure counting takes time to consolidate- so focus on 1 to 5. Find objects to count and sort to explore number patterns and relationships.

Practise writing numerals 1 to 9 - always start at the top!

You might find lots of resources to interest and engage your child on the website **Twinkl** too. We use these resources in the nursery and Reception classes; they have a special registration offer for parents currently.

Hope that you find these suggestions useful,
Mrs Wason