

Junior Infant Literacy Homework explained

Sound Book

- Go through each page as child says the sound each letter makes, go back over any ones they didn't know a few times
- Ask questions at each sound
 - Can you think of any words that start with this sound?
 - Can you think of any words that end with this sound?
 - Can you think of any names that have this sound in them?
 - Can you see anything in this room that has this sound in it?
 - What's this word (sound out word, e.g. h-a-t)?
 - Where do you hear the sound ___ in the word ___? Is it at the beginning, middle or end? (e.g. the sound 'a' in 'man')

Word boxes

- Go through words getting child to sound out or read each word
- Ask questions
 - Can you find me the word ___?
 - Which one says ___?
 - What words do you know that rhyme with ___?
 - Can you find the word ___ (sound out word e.g. m-a-t)
 - Which word starts/ends with (letter sound)?

Tricky words

- Read all tricky words with a red sticker beside them
- Go over tricky words without a green sticker beside them a few times (unknown tricky words)
- Ask child to make up a sentence with the tricky word in it
- Show me ___ (like, the, be, etc.)
- Write out unknown tricky words (no green sticker beside them) and stick on wall/ fridge to practice reading every day at home
- Roll a dice and practice writing each unknown tricky word however many times the dice lands on
- Write out two sets of tricky words on small pieces of cards and play snap/ memory game, getting child to read them each time
- Watch tricky word Youtube videos
- Play sight word games on phone/ tablet
- Write out and cut up tricky word for child to put back together

Homework writing sheet

- Call out words as children write them into booklet
- Sound out any ones they're stuck on together

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- If they make a mistake, lightly cross out the one they wrote, sound it out with them again and let them have another go
- Hold up a finger each time you say a sound
- If they make a mistake the second time, cross it out lightly, say each sound in the word as they write it down a third time and read it back with them a few times.
- If they still can't get the word, say each sound as you write it on a piece of paper, then let them write it in their booklet

Pupil Workbook

- Ask child what the sound they're doing is
- Ask them to name some words with that sound in them
- Show letter formation (see sheet), let them practice with their finger on the book, in the air, on someone's back and on the table
- Children practice writing letters on page (watch for correct letter formation!)
- Talk about the 4 pictures, getting them to name each one and decide which word does not start with the sound
- Children read words on the side of the page practicing blending

Reading

- Child reads book in one of the following ways
 - The child reads to you
 - You read it at the same time as them
 - You read a page and then they read the same page back to you straight after
 - You read it as they point to each word
 - They read it as you record them, then they listen back after
- If your child is stuck on a word, encourage them to
 - Say the first sound
 - Read to the end of the sentence and see what word might make sense there
 - Look at the pictures
 - Try a word that makes sense
 - Say all the sounds in the word
 - Blend sounds together
 - Look for chunks in the word (e.g. butter+fly or cook+ing)
 - Point to each word as they read it
 - Think if they've seen the word before (maybe on another page)
 - Flip the vowel from short to long (e.g. 'a' - flip from ah to ay)