

Suggested Activities for Junior Infant Students - week of 4/5/20 & week of 11/5/20

Below is a suggested list of activities. If you are choosing a few to complete revising sounds, sight words and reading with your child should be prioritised. Thank you.

Hello Junior Infants,

We hope that you and your families are safe and healthy. We are thinking of you and missing you daily. We miss every single one of you, your smiles and your stories. We are very proud of you. It isn't easy staying at home and not being able to see friends, extended family, missing out on parties, sports and activities you enjoy. We wanted to remind you that you matter. Stay home, stay safe so that everything can return to normal as quickly as possible.

Mrs. Neville & Mrs. Ryan

- After your child has had some free play with you, a sibling or by themselves. Ask your child to record a **'Play Review'** by drawing pictures on a page under the headings 'When?', 'Where?', 'Who?', 'What?', 'How?' Label their pictures for them where needed. Encourage them to sound out and write simple labels themselves. Some children may be ready to a simple sentence at the end of the page. Get your child to read their play review to you afterwards.
- **Narrative writing/oral language:** Go to Worldbookday.com under the 'The Big Little Book Corner' section, listen to the stories 'Hide and Seek Pig' by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler. If you haven't access to the internet use any storybook you have at home. Draw three columns on a page and label them 'beginning', 'middle', and 'end'. Ask your child to draw a picture under each heading. They can explain each picture to you and you can record their sentence under each picture. They can then tell you by looking at their picture prompts what happened at each stage in the story.
- **New sight words** to add to your child's wordbox: 'said', 'run', 'little', 'come', 'go', 'are'. Write these out for your child and cut out to practice daily.
- **Revise a few sounds** each day from their sound notebook up to 'ee or'.
- Use a magnetic board and letters or cut up your own letters if you haven't access to one. Call out simple **three letter words** and ask your child to make them with the letters. For e.g. cat, pit, fin, ten, sat, jet, tin, fin, leg
- **Practice cursive letter formation** with your child. Letters covered so far are s, a, t, i, p, n, c, k, e, h, r, m, d, g, o, u, l. You already have a sheet showing letter formation and a rhyme to go with each letter. Give your child lots of opportunities to write their name correctly in cursive handwriting.
- Your child can work on **'My Phonics Book'**. Continue on with the next four pages. They can draw pictures of objects that start with the sounds and label these drawings in their cursive handwriting. You can dot the letters to help where needs be.
- Encourage your child to draw, colour, paint, print, make simple junk **art** constructions etc.
- Super Simple **songs** on YouTube have a great selection of songs and nursery rhymes for your child to enjoy and to sing along to. Your child can learn to sing the song 'Bingo'
- **P.E.** : Encourage your child to run outdoors, Practice passing and catching a ball. Practice kicking and catching a ball. Try and get outdoors every day to exercise.
- Starfall website under 'learn to read' section have some nice books that your child could **practice reading** for e.g. 'Peg the Hen' and 'The Big Hit'.
- **Active Maths Activities:** using play dough make snakes or balls to match the numbers called out 0-5. Example call out 3 and your child must make two balls or snakes from the playdough.
Fill containers with household items for e.g, bowls, cups with dried rice or pasta to show full, half full, nearly empty, empty

- Practice **writing numerals** 0-5. **Practice counting** forwards to 10 and backwards from 10 (and beyond if ready to) Choose different numbers to stop and start at, for example 'We're going to start at 4 and count up to 10' or 'We're going to start at 10 and count down to 2'.
- Give your child a simple maths problem to solve daily. For e.g. "I have four teddy bears and my friend gave me one more. How many teddy bears have I now?", "I'm thinking of a number that's greater than eight but less than ten. What number am I thinking of?", "I have four legs and a long neck. I'm taller than an elephant. What animal am I?"
- **Add two groups of objects** to make a total of 5. Ask your child to get you 2 apples then 3 more. How many altogether? How many ways could I share 4 cakes between you and your sister? Could I share them fairly between you both?
- **Talk about time.** Ask questions such as "What do you do before bed? What do you think will happen next in the story? What day is it today?"
- **Bake something together** such as Rice Krispie Buns, practice counting while doing so. Counting out the bun cases, how many squares of chocolate go in, counting how many spoons of Rice Krispies are added and so on. This is a good way to use the language beside, in, on, into etc Use this activity to talk about the procedure too. What equipment will we need? What ingredients will we use? How will we make them? What's the method? What will we do first? next? etc. How will we evaluate our procedure? We will have to taste them!
- **Gaeilge:** watch a kids TV programme on TG4 if available to you.
- **Religion:** At school we start the day with our morning prayer 'Father in Heaven..' and at the end of the school day we say the night prayer 'God our father...' Revise these with your child.

Numeracy poems / rhymes

One, Two, Three, Four, Five

One, two, three, four, five,
Once I caught a fish alive,
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,
Then I let it go again.
Why did you let it go?
Because it bit my finger so.
Which finger did it bite?
This little finger on my right.

Five Little Monkeys

Five little monkeys jumping on the bed,
One fell off and bumped his head,
Mummy called the doctor and the doctor said
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed!"

Four little monkeys jumping on the bed....
Three little monkeys jumping on the bed.....
Two little monkeys jumping on the bed.....
One little monkey jumping on the bed.....

Morning Prayer

Father in heaven, you love me,
you are with me night and day.
I want to love you always
in all I do and say.
I'll try to please you, Father,
bless me through the day.
Amen

Night Prayer

God our Father, I come to say
thank you for your love today.
Thank you for my family
and all the friends you give to me.
Guard me in the dark of night
and in the morning send your light.
Amen.

Grace before Meals Prayer

Bless us, O God, as we sit together.
Bless the food we eat today.
Bless the hands that made the food.
Bless us, O God.
Amen.

Grace after Meals Prayer

Thank you, God, for the food we have eaten.
Thank you, God, for all our friends.
Thank you, God, for everything,
Thank you God.
Amen.