

# Nursery Home Learning – Week beginning 14/4/20

Hi guys,

I am missing you all so much. Here are some ideas, activities and games to share at home this week. In nursery, we do lots of independent learning as well as adult directed learning; it's important children get to work on some of their own ideas because they will have lots. It's also important to remember children at this age and stage of development have a shorter attention span than older children when working on adult directed learning. I would only expect them to stay on task for around 15-20 minutes at a time. Little and often is the key. Also, revisiting and adapting games and activities, is good if children have challenged their skills and thinking. Have fun and enjoy learning together.

Here are some **long-term skills** to work on while we have more time at home:

- Getting dressed by themselves - this is a big task to do all at once, break it down into steps:
  - I. Start with putting PJs on.
  - II. Once this is easy, try putting underwear on and t-shirts/jumpers.
  - III. Trousers, socks, tights could be the next target.
  - IV. Finally socks and shoes - they are hard and need lots of practice.
- What about making beds in the morning, putting dirty clothes in the washing basket or sorting clothes into different categories? This is a great maths activity, matching and sorting, thinking about 'the same' and 'different'.



## Topic Activities

This half term in nursery, we would have been talking about **journeys** - which we are not doing for real at the moment, but children have wonderful imaginations.

Use 'We're Going On a Bear Hunt' as a starting point. Here is Michael Rosen telling the story <https://youtu.be/OgyI6ykDwds>.

Make your own Bear Hunt around the house (or garden if you have one)?

### Literacy

Make labels for each area of the Bear Hunt.

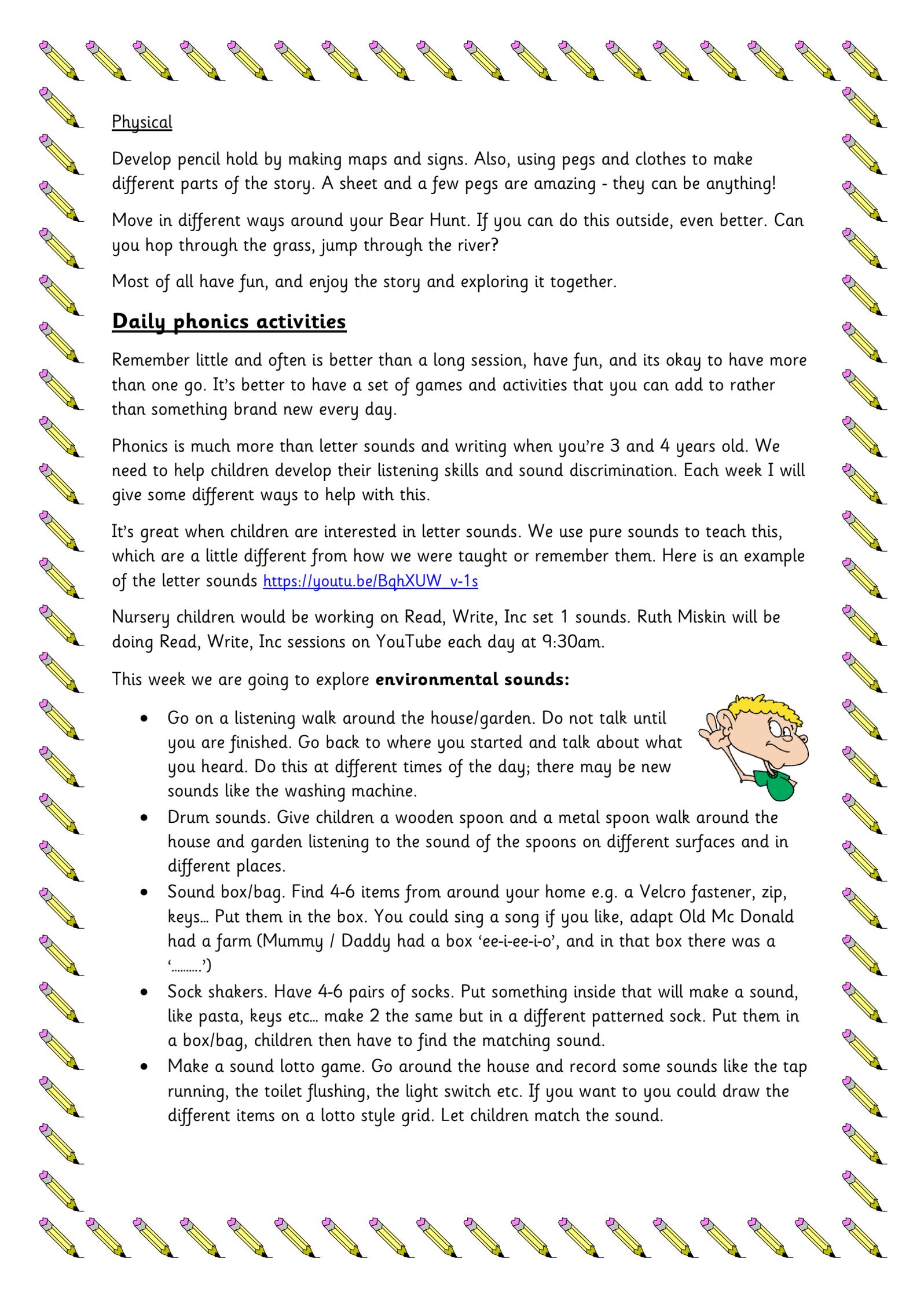
How else could you describe walking through long grass?

Can you change the story?

### Maths

Make a map of your Bear Hunt, what came first, second...next, last?

Ask questions like 'How far away is the snowstorm?' 'What is next to the river?' Use lots of positional language with this story.



## Physical

Develop pencil hold by making maps and signs. Also, using pegs and clothes to make different parts of the story. A sheet and a few pegs are amazing - they can be anything!

Move in different ways around your Bear Hunt. If you can do this outside, even better. Can you hop through the grass, jump through the river?

Most of all have fun, and enjoy the story and exploring it together.

## Daily phonics activities

Remember little and often is better than a long session, have fun, and its okay to have more than one go. It's better to have a set of games and activities that you can add to rather than something brand new every day.

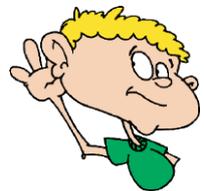
Phonics is much more than letter sounds and writing when you're 3 and 4 years old. We need to help children develop their listening skills and sound discrimination. Each week I will give some different ways to help with this.

It's great when children are interested in letter sounds. We use pure sounds to teach this, which are a little different from how we were taught or remember them. Here is an example of the letter sounds [https://youtu.be/BqhXUW\\_v-1s](https://youtu.be/BqhXUW_v-1s)

Nursery children would be working on Read, Write, Inc set 1 sounds. Ruth Miskin will be doing Read, Write, Inc sessions on YouTube each day at 9:30am.

This week we are going to explore **environmental sounds**:

- Go on a listening walk around the house/garden. Do not talk until you are finished. Go back to where you started and talk about what you heard. Do this at different times of the day; there may be new sounds like the washing machine.
- Drum sounds. Give children a wooden spoon and a metal spoon walk around the house and garden listening to the sound of the spoons on different surfaces and in different places.
- Sound box/bag. Find 4-6 items from around your home e.g. a Velcro fastener, zip, keys... Put them in the box. You could sing a song if you like, adapt Old Mc Donald had a farm (Mummy / Daddy had a box 'ee-i-ee-i-o', and in that box there was a '.....')
- Sock shakers. Have 4-6 pairs of socks. Put something inside that will make a sound, like pasta, keys etc... make 2 the same but in a different patterned sock. Put them in a box/bag, children then have to find the matching sound.
- Make a sound lotto game. Go around the house and record some sounds like the tap running, the toilet flushing, the light switch etc. If you want to you could draw the different items on a lotto style grid. Let children match the sound.



## Maths activities

Maths is everywhere so when children are playing independently you could add some mathematical ideas. Explore shapes, not only their name but some properties of shapes. For example, 'How many corners has this shape got?' 'Do they fit together without any gaps?' You can make number problems anywhere, 'We had 3 bowls of ice cream. Daddy took one away. How many have we got left?'

There are lots of skills involved in counting. Counting by rote, counting how many you have, matching an amount to a number. The children will be at different stages of their mathematical journey. It is really important children understand the value of a number, they need to explore the 'three-ness of 3'. If children know and understand numbers to 10 when they start Reception, that would great. Some children will already know this, so work on ten numbers if they are ready. Also, adding one more or taking one away. Again, have fun with numbers.

- Make a number line. Cut out 10 pieces of card/paper the same size and write the numbers 1 -10 on them, let children help. Order the numbers every day. Depending on where children are up to, just have 5 at first. If you can put some string up, try pegging the numbers on. Through the day, swap some of the numbers and see if children notice and can put them back in the same order again.
- Play 5 Current Buns. Make some pretend current buns/cookies and 5 coins (or have 5 real pennies if super vised), take turns to be the shopkeeper. Count how many buns are left each time and how much money the shopkeeper has each time.
- Scavenger Hunt. Inside or in the garden, set a challenge, 'Can you find me 5 pebbles/stones?' 'Can you find 6 red Lego bricks/blocks?' You could set a timer, or let children help you write the list of things to find so they are remembering reading and writing numbers.
- Draw a shape picture. Find some different shaped objects children can draw around. 'What picture can we make this into?' You could make a shape story, 'Here is Mr Triangle he went for a walk...'.  

- Musical numbers. Put the numbers on the ground. Sing or play music. 'When it stops, you have to stand next to number 3' etc. You can also extend this, ' When the music stops, do 5 jumps next to number 5.'

Enjoy being together, have fun and hopefully we will see you all soon. Stay safe.

Love Suzanne.