

Where to Start with Learning at Home (Ages 3 - 5)

This guide can help you to determine the kinds of activities you currently do with your child and encourage you to explore other areas of learning that you may not have already thought of.

Simply read the statements below and decide whether you do this type of learning with your child often, sometimes or never. Are there any areas you could focus on more?

You can click on the heading bar for each topic to be taken to the relevant category on the Twinkl website, where you can find super resources to support your child.

Early Literacy: Phonics



Alternatively, you can follow the web url www.twinkl.co.uk/resources/parents to get to the Twinkl Parents Hub.

We have also included handy tick boxes for you to easily check off when you have covered each topic. You can also use the 'traffic light' system to record how often you do each type of learning with your child.



Never



Sometimes



Often

We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

Early Literacy: Phonics



I encourage my child to engage in activities linked to recognising letters and sounds, such as using letter flashcards, listening for sounds on walks and playing games, like I Spy and matching sounds to pictures.

Early Literacy: Writing



I support my child to use a range of early writing skills such as making marks or writing letters or words. I encourage them to trace letters, make marks on paper using pens, pencils and paints, or write in sand or foam.

Early Literacy: Reading



I regularly share a range of different books with my child, including fiction and non-fiction. I understand the types of questions I could ask during storytime and encourage storytelling in different ways, e.g. through role play or song.

Early Maths: Number



I am able to incorporate number into our day-to-day routines, e.g. counting objects with my child or finding out how many objects we have altogether. I further support my child's maths knowledge by including numbers in puzzles, games, playdough mats or flashcards.

Early Maths: Shape



I encourage my child to regularly recognise shapes within their natural environment and invite them to join in with shape-related activities, such as going on shape hunts, building with 3D blocks and using shapes to create pictures or models.

Early Maths: Measure



I demonstrate the language of measure with my child in our everyday routines including size, weight, time and capacity. I support my child's knowledge of measure by encouraging them to compare objects, estimate whether objects will fit in a space and anticipate routines.

Simple Science: The World



I demonstrate curiosity for the wider world through visits to libraries, museums or parks. I model finding answers to my child's questions through books and the Internet. We discuss different people, animals and plants and their similarities and differences.

Simple Science: Experiments



I provide my child with opportunities to observe and explore simple science concepts (such as freezing and melting, floating and sinking and light and dark) through fun experiments at home. I help widen their vocabulary by describing materials, e.g. soft, hard, rough etc.

Simple Science: Technology



I demonstrate to my child how to use devices such as tablets and phones safely and for a purpose. I encourage them to engage in educational apps and games and am aware of how to use technology appropriately with my child.

Physical Play: Fine Motor Skills



I support my child's fine motor development by engaging them in activities that further develop the muscles in their fingers and wrists, such as threading, writing or drawing and manipulating materials like playdough and slime.

Physical Play: Gross Motor Skills



I support my child's gross motor development by engaging them in activities that further develop their core strength, balance and coordination, such as throwing and catching large and small balls, changing direction when running, balancing on objects and landing appropriately.

Physical Play: Being Healthy



I encourage my child to eat a wide range of foods and speak regularly with them about the need for a healthy lifestyle. I model being healthy and invite my child to join in with eating a balanced diet, exercising and having good sleep and hygiene routines. I promote my child's independent self-care through dressing themselves.

Creative Arts: Arts and Crafts



I regularly work alongside my child to engage in art and craft activities together at home and encourage them to experiment with a range of materials such as paper, card, paint and glue. I coach my child to use tools with increasing control, such as scissors and hole punches (with adult supervision).

Creative Arts: Imaginative Play



I encourage my child to express themselves by creating their own role play scenarios. I provide them with opportunities to dress up, play with puppets and pretend to be a character based on the people and places they have experienced in real life or stories they've heard or seen.

Creative Arts: Music and Movement



I provide my child with opportunities to explore different types of sound through instruments, body percussion (e.g. clapping or stomping) and listening to various genres of music. I invite them to express themselves through song and dance and join in.

At Home: Self-Confidence and Awareness



I encourage my child to be self-confident by reflecting on their successes and talking about and encouraging their interests. I foster their independence to know when they do or do not need help.

At Home: Making Relationships



I promote my child's social skills through regular interaction with family and friends. I discuss with them the qualities of a good friend and the importance of sharing and taking turns.

At Home: Feelings and Behaviour



I help my child to better understand their own emotions, the feelings of others and how actions affect other people. I support them in setting and maintaining clear boundaries and routines for day-to-day tasks and activities.

Communication: Listening and Attention



I support my child's listening and attention skills by encouraging them to take part in activities such as role play, board games and listening to audio stories that require them to listen carefully and show their understanding.

Communication: Understanding



I am able to give my child simple instructions to follow in order to establish their listening and understanding skills. I read to my child and ask them simple questions about the characters to discern their understanding of the text.

Communication: Speaking



I talk with my child and show genuine interest in their opinions and stories, encouraging further discussion with open-ended questions and responses. I gently correct their word pronunciation or grammar where appropriate.

Explore and Discover More

Twinkl Go! is a digital platform, hosting interactive content such as videos, games, audiobooks and more. Twinkl Go! enables digital content to be streamed to your computer or mobile device.



Twinkl Book Club is our book subscription service. Enjoy our original works of fiction in beautiful printed form, delivered to you each half-term and yours to keep!

Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire pupils from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!