

Simple Games for Encouraging Reading

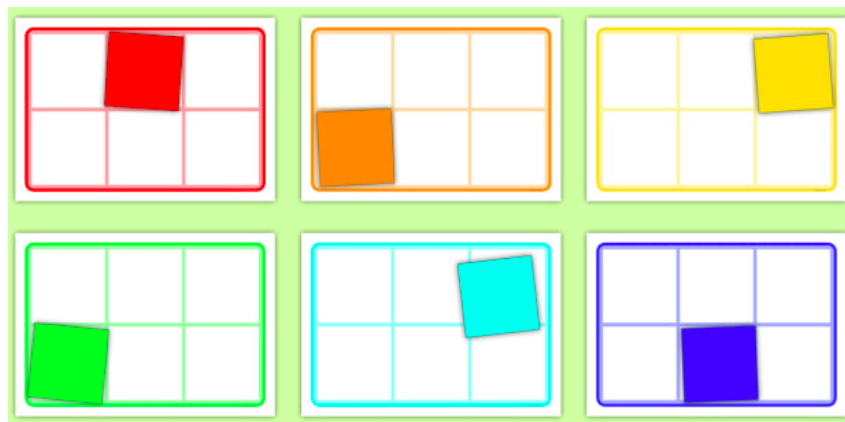
Treasure hunts

Choose a selection of words from a current storybook or words that you know your child needs to practise. Write them on cards and hide them around the house. Give the challenge of hunting for the words and reading them before the timer runs out.



Bingo

Read out the words to match to a bingo board. You can find blank bingo boards here: <https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-a-003-editable-bingo-and-lotto-game>



Pairs

games/snap/dominos

Write each focus word onto two cards, then use to play snap or pairs games.

I Spy

Use language-based clues, such as "I spy something that starts with T" or "I spy something that rhymes with 'duck'." If that isn't enough information for your child, add more details, such as "I spy something that starts with 'T' and has four big wheels" (a truck).

Making words

- Use magnetic letters on the fridge or foam letters in the bath
- Play dice games by changing the dice faces to letters and asking your child to roll dice to see if he or she can make a word from the letters. Say the sounds when making the word.
- Cut out paper letters to practice spelling words or writing simple sentences.

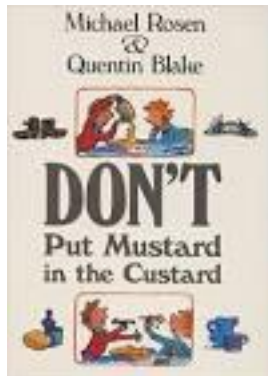
Making sentences

Cut words out of newspapers or magazines and put together to make sentences.

Tongue twisters and language games

Make up and play with tongue twisters like *Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers* or *Betty Botter bought a bit of butter*.

Find poems and rhymes that play with language, like Michael Rosen's *There's mustard in the custard*.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hl8vFBL-wJ4>

Make up guessing games during meal times. For example, 'I'm thinking of an animal. It can gallop. You can ride it. What could it be?'

Storytime

Use puppets, dolls and construction toy characters to build a story setting and retell favourite rhymes and tales.

Even if your child is reluctant to read themselves, please do keep reading to them as much as possible and talking about the stories. The understanding of texts and language that this will provide will be invaluable as they grow up and should really support the development of writing too.