

## Introduction to Phonics

Following on from our Listening ideas and activities sheet, we have put together a few ideas to help you begin to support your child/children at home with their early phonics (the phonetic sounds that letters make in words) skills.

### Phonics



Listening skills are particularly important for fine tuning the ear in preparation for learning phonics (the sounds that letters make in words) which will help your child blend letter sounds together in order to read words. Your child/children will need to know the letter name, e.g. 'A' as in 'a,b,c,d' etc but also the letter sound or sounds it makes in words, e.g. 'a' as in apple, to enable them to have a go at reading words independently.

When going through the phonic sounds at home be careful not to add the extra 'uh' sound on the end, for example the letter 'M' makes the sound 'mmmmm' not 'm-uh'. You tube has some good phonics for children clips particularly "Mr Thorne does Phonics" however, best to avoid some American clips as some of the sounds are different to the English phonetic system which can be confusing.

Once your child knows the first 6 letter sounds to be learnt, 's,a,t,p,i,n', you can help them to blend the sounds together to make some simple 3 letter cvc words e.g. 'sit' or 'pat'.

For help with the initial alphabet phonemes check out "Mr Thorne does phonics - phase 1" on YouTube.