# Phonics games

The children can play these games at any phase all you need to do is change the sound they are working on. The order of the sounds is in the attached booklet.

Session 1 games/activities-

- Play games with the beginning sounds in words. Start simple, give the child a word and see if they can tell you the sound that the word starts with. For example, What does the word "sam" start with? /s/. Help the child by saying the word slowly. Help them learn to hear these sounds. At first, start with the sounds that can be stretched out (such as m, s, f, l, n, r) and avoid the blended consonants that are much more difficult to segment (for example give the word 'big' not 'broom').

- Practice oral sound games with the beginning sounds in words. Say "the word 'sat' starts with the sound 's'. Let's see what else we can think of other words that start with the 's' sound." Give a few examples to get them started and at first help them by saying the first sound to get them started. (For example, "milk" starts with the sound /m/. What else can you think of that starts with the sound /m/…. and to help him out say /mmmmm/ while the child is thinking of a word. Help out at first with some words…/mmmm/ … mud…./mmmm/ mum…" If the child says a word like 'cat' simply say oops that word starts with the /k/ sound…listen /c//a//t/. What starts with /mmm/?

- Play "silly word" games with beginning sounds. Have the child modify the first sound in a word. For example, use the child's name and make silly words. For example, "Aleena, if your name started with /mmm/ what would it be?... Mleena; How about /t/?.. Tleena;How about /b/? Bleena.
- Sing little songs (or adapted versions of songs with a specific sound). Have the child help you make a 'silly sound song' of a specific sound. For example sing twinkle, twinkle little star with all the words starting with the /sss/ sound (swinkle, swinkle, sittle star ) .

- Do rhyming activities. Rhyming is terrific for developing phonemic (sound) awareness. Help the child learn how to rhyme. Say a word like 'cat' and see how many rhyming words they can say. (At first this rhyming needs to be demonstrated as they will often just say a word that starts with the same sound.) For example "What would rhyme with cat? hat, mat, pat, sat.. See if you can come up with any "silly" rhyming words…zat.. dat..

- Practice orally segmenting sounds within a word. Have the child tell you the sounds he hears within a word. Remember this is an auditory skill based on **sound** not letter names or spelling correctly. For example:
  ---Tell me the sounds in the word 'cat': they should say /c/ /a/ /t/
  ---Tell me the sounds in the word 'shut': they should say /sh/ /u/ /t/
  ---Tell me the sounds in the word 'train': they should say /t/ r/ /ai/ /n/
  Say the word slowly and clearly to help them child hear and distinguish sounds.

- Play 'sound changing' games where you tell the child a word and give him some instructions on how to change it. " Say _____ without the ____ sound". (For example say 'milk' without the /m/…. and the child should say 'ilk'). Or "how would you say ____ if the /__/ sound was change to /__/? (For example how would you say sing if the /s/ was changed to /r/? (the kid should say ring)

There are also a range of games on the internet that the children can play. The following websites have a fantastic range of games which we have been using in school so the children should know how to play them.

## www.phonicsplay.co,uk

This website has lots of games for each phase which help with reading, recognising, blending and segmenting.

## www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play

There are some brilliant games for blending, segmenting and listening for the sounds on this website.

## www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/alphablocks

## www.letters-and-sounds.co.uk

This website has lots of games for each phase which help with reading, recognising, blending and segmenting. Information on how phonics is taught in schools is also on this site and this is the main scheme we follow.

## www.jollylearning.co.uk

There are some fantastic songs, rhymes and stories on this website which help the children to identify the sounds. We use these actions when we are initially teaching the sounds to the children.