

5-10 minutes activities spread throughout the day are better than longer activities.

Challenge 1

Dough disco

We love Dough Disco and do it daily, this strengthens our fingers and helps our coordination ready for writing. You can use ready bought playdough or make your own, it's very easy and the children will enjoy helping. Homemade playdough lasts for weeks if kept in an airtight tub.

Homemade playdough recipe

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/t-tp-3595-no-cook-playdough-recipe-poster>

Spread the Happiness TV.

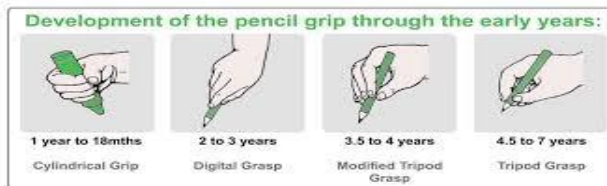
<https://www.spreadthehappiness.co.uk/free-tv-happy-links/>

Free tv Primary Resources for both parents and teachers.

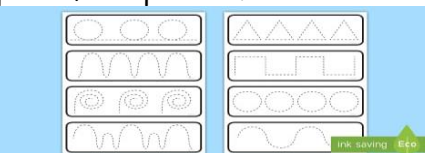
[See our Youtube Channel](#)

Challenge 2

Writing your name is a great activity weekly for the children who will be reception in September Pencil control - check that your child is using the correct grip and gently encourage them to hold the pen or pencil correctly. Let the child decide left or right.



Twinkl have some great free ideas for pencil control, don't worry if they want to scribble it's all part of the process.



Challenge 3

Maths Write large numbers to 10 on 10 pieces of paper. Tape into a hoop on the floor, not on order. Roll a ball through the children have to say the number.



Challenge 4

This is a great physical skill, cutting out eyes and mouth from magazines and sticking them on paper to make funny faces. Take a photograph and add it to a scrapbook. Can you make family members?



Teachers?

Challenge 5

Sunflowers

Let's have a sunflower competition (seeds are in supermarkets now). Plant your sunflower seed in a pot as large as possible, put it outside in a sunny place (but be aware of those slugs!) Water it and let's see what happens over the next few weeks. Take pictures every week to say what you did. The teachers will plant one too!



Challenge 6

- Join in with Joe Wickes every morning at 9 am on youtube

Share a Book

Many children enjoy looking at books and other printed material at an early age but need an enthusiastic adult who will be a willing partner, enabling them to develop a love of books which in turn will have a positive impact on their future literacy skills.

We have developed 'The Box of Ten' which is made up of favourite children's books. These are read to the children regularly in order for them to be familiar with and to understand the language they are hearing. If you have any of the following books at home, dig them out and see if your child can use the pictures to retell the story to you.

Each Peach Pear Plum - Janet Ahlberg

Monkey Puzzle - Julia Donaldson

The Gruffalo - Julia Donaldson

Bear Hunt - Michael Rosen

Owl Babies - Martin Waddell

The Very Hungry Caterpillar - Eric Carle

The Tiger Who came to Tea - Judith Kerr

The Blue Balloon - Mike Inkpen

Whatever Next - Jill Murphy

Tips for sharing books with children

- Choose a book that is appropriate for the child's level of development and interests.
- As much as practically possible, remove distractions, particularly background noise such as music.
- Share a book wherever the child is comfortable, this could be anywhere, snuggled up on the sofa, out in the garden or even around the kitchen table.
- Don't bombard the child with lots of questions, instead comment on the pictures and allow pauses for them to comment or make sounds - sharing books should be additional talking time for the child, not just the adult.
- Don't read for too long, little and often is best.
- Repetition is good, it will help children remember and understand the language they are hearing, it's completely normal for them to request the same book again and again.
- Enjoy! ☺

Mrs Kennett and Miss Taylor