



Pre Reading and Reading Activities

(Each section is written in approximate developmental order)

Matching

1. Object to object (identical in every aspect)
2. Picture to picture or symbol to symbol (identical in every aspect)
3. Colours
4. Picture to object (as identical as you can get. For example, match a picture of a red car to a red car, not a blue one.)
5. Word to word (same font)
6. Word to word (different font)
7. Object, picture or symbol to word
8. Letters / numbers

Sorting

1. Objects (all the pencils over here and all the cars over there)
2. Pictures or symbols (all of each sort identical)
3. Colours
4. Words (identical)
5. Letters / numbers (identical)
6. Similar objects by 1 different criteria. (Sort identical pencils into red, green, blue etc. Sort red cars into big and small ones.)
7. Similar objects by 2 criteria (big red cars here, small red cars here, big green cars here, small green cars here etc)

Games

1. Blotack words or symbols onto the things they apply to – chair, table, door, window etc. Go outside and do the same thing with tree, bench, car or whatever is in your playground.
2. Bingo
3. Do matching and sorting activities in the hall with PE equipment
4. Dress the pupils up with coloured ribbons or cardboard shapes, pictures etc and 'sort' them using PE mats or pictures on the wall.
5. Pairs game
6. When matching words to objects, give the child a word and ask them to take it to a member of staff in a different room and bring back the right object. You will have to prepare the other member of staff first!
7. Use words or symbols to make a choice for lunch if you have school lunch.
8. Make a word or symbol shopping list then go out and buy it.
9. Snap
10. Put your own (single word or symbol) labels on displays. Particularly good if it's your own artwork.
11. Dominoes
12. Early jigsaws designed to develop these sorts of skills.

Reading

1. Can you recognise your name? On a flashcard, on your peg, on your file, in different fonts? Can you tell a flashcard with your name on it from a blank one? Can you pick it from a group of names? From a group of words beginning with the same letter?
2. Can you recognise your classmates' names? Your family and friends? Your favourite TV characters? Can you match these to pictures or the people themselves?
3. What about comments? *Oh no! Look! Whoops!* These can be displayed next to appropriate photos or used on a flashcard to be waved around at the right moment.
4. Does the school have a reading scheme? If so, are you using it, alongside a range of other activities using the characters and the vocabulary? The Oxford Reading

Tree (for example) has CD resources on its website (<https://global.oup.com/education/content/primary/series/oxford-reading-tree/?region=uk>) and resources for use in Clicker (<http://www.cricksoft.com/uk/products/content/ort/default.aspx>).

5. Make your own books with repetitive word schemes and your own photographs. Make sure they are relevant to the activities or interests of your pupils. For example:
We went to Tesco's. We got flour. We got sugar. etc.
My mum. My dad. My dog. etc.
I like Peppa. I like George. I like puddles. etc
Making beans on toast. We need bread. We need beans. etc
These can be on paper; on the computer using Clicker, Power Point or SwitchIt!Maker 3; or on the iPad using Book Creator, Clicker Books or Pictello. There are also a good range of books online at <https://tarheelreader.org>. You can use those made by other people or make your own. Books from this site can be downloaded into Pictello. See <http://www.assistiveware.com/tar-heel-reader-pictello-converter> for details.
6. If you create stories using toys, you could also use them to make stop motion animated films. See some of the resources on <http://www.tts-group.co.uk/> for ideas.
7. Create targets for the pupil's sight vocabulary by using high frequency words, words from their books, words from their speech therapy targets etc. An example of a recording table, using Oxford Reading Tree is attached to this document.
8. Add symbols to any words that are new or unfamiliar concepts. Documents can be written in Communicate: In Print in text with occasional symbols added. This programme is also good for making books.
9. Phonics. It can be useful for pupils who have some sight vocabulary to learn the initial letters of familiar words. They can then move on to finding groups of words that begin with the same letter (a useful listening exercise, even for the non-readers) and then move on to blending. Not all pupils will get that far and it is not necessarily useful to teach phonic sounds before sight vocabulary, especially to those who do not yet know that text carries meaning.

Websites

<http://sentineluk.wordpress.com/2014/02/14/a-quick-introduction-to-readiness-for-reading/>

Information on the requisite skills needed for reading. Also includes a link to the Frank Wise School curriculum.

www.senteacher.org

www.helpkidzlearn.com (this is a subscription service although they have some free games to try.)

www.checkthemap.org

www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies. Includes a range of activities for pupils with special needs.

http://www.priorywoods.middlesbrough.sch.uk/page_viewer.asp?page=Resources&pid=4

www.kneebouncers.com American subscription site. Can be accessed by switch users.

www.poissonrouge.com Now a subscription site but the first 10 days are a free trial.

<http://www.shinylearning.co.uk/freegames/>. Some simple switch accessible games.

<https://www.tes.com/teaching-resources/hub/special-educational-needs> Resources made by teachers. Mainly free, some need paying for.

<http://busythings.lgfl.org.uk/> This is the Busy Things website which can be accessed through London Grid for Learning for free via the above address if you are a London school. Their own website (subscription service) is available at www.busythings.co.uk.

<http://storybird.com/> This is a little more advanced and can be used independently by pupils who can write but can also be used as a way of creating stories where the pupil chooses the picture and tells an adult what to write.

www.commtap.org. Free resource with ideas for language and communication activities.

www.gingertiger.net Early learning activities. Subscription service but you can do some activities for a short time for free. American.

http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk/inclusion_and_SEN/assessment/q_skills.asp. Curriculum / assessment materials from Northern Ireland covering all the P levels.

<http://equals.co.uk/schemes-of-work-for-the-national-curriculum/>. Curriculum designed for those working mainly below Level 1 of the NC. Includes separate materials for Literacy (you will need to scroll down on the page).

<http://www.abcya.com/> Early learning and primary aged activities. American.

<https://www.lgfl.net/learning-resources/summary-page/fairytales> Retelling and activities around familiar fairy tales. Free to LGfL schools. Also <https://www.lgfl.net/learning-resources/summary-page/early-shakespeare>.

<https://www.lgfl.net/learning-resources/summary-page/busy-things>. A range of literacy activities for Early Years and Primary. Free to LGfL schools.

<https://www.lgfl.net/learning-resources/summary-page/inclusive-resources>. Literacy (and Maths, Science and PSHE) resources designed for SLD pupils. Free to LGfL schools.

<https://www.lgfl.net/learning-resources/summary-page/widgit>. Free Widgit Symbols (to LGfL schools).

Software

Clicker 7 and Clicker apps (plus downloadable online resources). Available from Crick Software at www.cricksoft.com.

SwitchIt! Maker 3. Subscription service and iPad app available from Inclusive Technology at <https://www.helpkidzlearn.com/shop/online-software/chooseit-maker-3>.

Book Creator app. Available on the App Store but further details from <http://www.redjumper.net/bookcreator/education/>.

Pictello app. Available on the App Store but further details from <http://www.assistiveware.com/product/pictello>.

Communicate: In Print (plus downloadable symbol resources) or Widgit Online. Available from www.widgit.com.

Recording Sheet example (from a school using the Oxford Reading Tree).

Date key word was added to flashcard set

Kipper	Mum	Dad	Floppy	Biff	Chip	Wilf	Wilma	Grandma

The	the	and	A	a	Look	look	I	got	went

to	Oh no!	No	no	like	He	he	She	she

was	My	my	in	said	It	it	Is	is

can	This	this	Here	here	big	little	me	Yes

yes	that	then	of	with				

ORT First words from highest frequency word list: the, and, a, I, it, is

Additional ORT first words: No/no, big, little, Oh, Yes/yes, get, got, on, did, this, up, see, we

Other high frequency words: to, said, in, he, of, was, my, that, with, went, then

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ALM

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