

SURBITON HILL NURSERY SCHOOL

Literacy at SHNS

Literacy is the ability to read, write, speak and listen in a way that lets us communicate effectively and make sense of the world.

Literacy comes under 7 strands. Here are some suggestions of ways to support Literacy at home.

Reading

- Model reading to your children – read cookbooks, maps, instructions, road signs
- Visit the library
- Read and recite poems
- Create stories together – make up different endings, add in new characters to familiar stories.
- Create and use props to bring the story to life – eg wooden spoon puppets

Writing

- Mark making for a purpose – create a shopping list, draw a map, write a recipe, label construction creations using post-it notes
- Story scribing – use cue cards for **character, setting, problem, solution** to create a narrative for a story. Write the story to record your child's comments – this models writing to record for children – encourage your child to make marks to represent
- Create name cards for family members that your children can use to help them to write family names
- Create a story map, making marks to represent parts of the story
- Let your child's interests lead their writing.

Phonics – please see separate handout

Handwriting – please see separate handout

Speaking

- Walk and talk – go for a walk in the local area, discussing what is happening around you, changes, and similarities and so on. Let your child lead on the conversation. Go with it and support them in deepening their ideas and thinking

Listening and Understanding

- Model listening carefully yourself. Talk about the skills you are using to listen.
- As much as possible, give a child your undivided attention – and if you can't listen at a particular moment, explain why and promise that you will listen to what they have to say later.
- Play games that rely on listening for example musical statues.
- **Scaffold** - support your child's learning at a pace relevant to their needs, building up on what they know.

Personal, Social, Emotional development

- Reading books that promote emotional well-being and self-regulation such as the Colour Monster, Owl Babies
- Talk about the feelings of different characters in stories
- Building resilience and encouraging risk-taking