**Greenmount National School**

**Junior Language Class – Week beginning Tuesday May 11th**

Hi everyone,

I hope you were all able to enjoy the sunshine at the weekend before the thunder started and the lightening flashed in the sky. I had to bring Alice and Theo inside the house and we cuddled on the couch because they were scared of the loud noises. Did you hear the thunder and see the lightening?

Theo has started digging a hole in the garden. It’s nearly bigger than him at this stage. Look at his mucky paws and nose!



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|  | **Week May 11th – 15th** |
|  | **Scroll down for an explanation of how to do each activity.** |
| **Monday** | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme: The Farm  **Reading:**  **Phonics:** Revise the sound: ‘u’ (umbrella).  Play Sounds like Phonics Interactive games.  **Blending:** am family – am, ram, Sam.  **Read Progressive Phonics:** Book 1: Story: I am Tall (p.50)  **Writing:**  **Fine Motor Skills Activity.**  **Letter Formation:** The letter q. Start at the top, make a c, up, down down down and tick.  **Maths:**  Continue Extending backwards number word sequences (See Activity Explanations).  Number bonds to 5. Pick two activities. (See Activity Explanations). |
| **Tuesday** | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme: The Farm  **Reading:**  **Phonics:** Revise the sound: ‘n’ (nut)  Play Sounds like Phonics Interactive games.  **Blending:** am family – am, ram, Sam, dam  **Read Progressive Phonics:** Book 1: Story: I Am Sam (p. 52)  **Writing:**  **Fine Motor Skills Activity**  **Letter Formation:** the letter q. Letter rhyme: Start at the top, make a c, up, down down down and tick.  **Maths:**  Continue Extending backwards number word sequences (See Activity Explanations).  Number Bonds to 5. Pick two activities. (See Activity Explanations). |
| **Wednesday** | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme:The Farm  **Reading:**  **Phonics:** Revise the sound: ‘b’ (ball)  Play Sounds like Phonics Interactive games.  **Blending:** am family – am, ram, Sam, dam, mam  **Read Progressive Phonics:** Book 1: Story: Rat Race (p. 54)  **Writing:**  **Fine Motor Skills Activity**  **Letter Formation:** The letter j. Letter rhyme: Start at top, straight down, swing, don’t forget the dot on top.  **Maths:**  Continue Extending backwards number word sequences (See Activity Explanations).  Number Bonds to 5. Pick two activities. (See Activity Explanations). |
| **Thursday** | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme: The Farm  **Reading:**  **Phonics:** Revise the sound: ‘w’ (wind)  Play Sounds like Phonics Interactive games.  **Blending:** am family – am, ram, Sam, dam, mam, Pam  **Read the book:** How Many Animals (See Collins Big Cat Readers instructions below) and do the activity at the end.  **Writing:**  **Fine Motor Skills Activity.**  **Letter Formation:** Revisethe letter j.Letter rhyme: Start at top, straight down, swing, don’t forget the dot on top.  **Maths:**  Continue Extending backwards number word sequences (See Activity Explanations).  Number Bonds to 5. Pick two activities. (See Activity Explanations). |
| **Friday** | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme: The Farm  **Reading:**  **Phonics:** Revise the sound: ‘f’ (fan)  Play Sounds like Phonics Interactive games.  **Blending:** am family – am, ram, Sam, dam, mam, Pam  **Read the book:** How many Animals (See Collins Big Cat Readers instructions below) and do the activity at the end.  **Writing:**  **Fine Motor Skills Activity.**  **Letter Formation:** Revisethe letter q and j.  **Maths:**  Continue Extending backwards number word sequences (See Activity Explanations).  Number Bonds to 5. Pick two activities. (See Activity Explanations). |
|  | **Activity Explanations** |
|  | **English:**  **Oral Language:**  Theme: Farm Animals  For our school tour we normally go to the farm. Unfortunately, this year we won’t get to do that. ☹ So we’ll have to virtually learn all about the farm instead.  If you are accessing this on Google Classroom: There’s a farm file in the Oral Language section in Classwork.  If you are accessing this on the website: Look in the Extension Activities May 11th blogpost.  You’ll find activities and games to help you explore The Farm. No need to print these out. You can discuss them while looking at the screen.  **Phonics:**  You need to write out the individual letters on pieces of paper for this activity.  Say the sound, trace the sound, write the sound and do the action.  Watch the video of the letter on <https://www.starfall.com/h/abcs/>  Draw and colour pictures of objects the begin with the letter or cut out pictures of objects that start with the letter.  Find the letter in a book/magazine/newspaper.  Sing the jolly phonics song for the letter. These are available on youtube.  Think of words that begin/end with the letter.  **Sounds like Phonics:**  Go to the cjfallon website. Click on Quick Links. Click on Sounds like Phonics. This will bring you to interactive games to accompany each letter. This is the book we use in school.  **Blending:**  Use the same letters that you have used for the phonics activities.  Mix up all the letters. Ask your child to make the word. Help them by sounding out the word slowly. Then trace the letters with their finger. Then the child writes the word by copying from the letters. Continue with the other words. Don’t be too worried about letter formation here. The aim is that they are reading and writing simple words.  **Progressive Phonics Books:** You will find these in a separate blog post in the Language Class blog under Progressive Phonics.  **Collins Big Cat Readers:**  <https://connect.collins.co.uk/school/portal.aspx>  Go to Collins Connect and click on the Teacher portal and enter:  Username: parents@harpercollins.co.uk  Password: Parents20!  and click Login.  Click on Collins Big Cat. Use the filter at the side to choose Pink Band A books.  **Fine Motor Skills Activities**  Always do a fine motor skills activity first. Here is a great webpage with a lots of ideas for fine motor activities: <http://www.infanteducation.ie/infanted-blog/building-the-muscles-for-better-handwriting>  **Letter Formation**  We are moving on to new letters so we will concentrate on doing two a week.  We use little rhymes to remember how to write the letters. You and the child can say this as they write the letter.  Start by drawing the letter in the air, with your finger on the table, on someone’s back, then move onto to tracing a few lines of letters written by you before they should write the letter on their own. Help your child to say the rhyme as they form the letter. Remember, it’s all about success. Children will get upset or give up if they feel they are unable to do it. If they need to trace letters and not move on to writing the letters on their own, that is fine. They are still learning how to write when they are tracing.  When doing writing activities, make it interesting by using different writing implements or writing surfaces. You could use a pencil, biro, marker, crayon, colouring pencil, chalk, paintbrush, q-tip and paint, finger paint on white paper, coloured paper, cardboard, tinfoil, cling film, wrapping paper, in sand, in suds, in rice, the ground outside…  We do a lot of rainbow writing in school. This is where you write the letter over and over using as many overlapping colours as you can.  **Maths:**  **Extending backwards number word sequences.**  Essentially this is the same activity as last week but this time we are using backwards number word sequences and trying to extend these. Children find counting backwards much harder than counting forwards. Check to see from which number your child can comfortably count back from first. Is it: 3, 2, 1. Or 5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Maybe they can count down from ten confidently. Then try to extend it by one or two numbers this week. Continue to do the active counting while counting backwards i.e. count while clapping (one clap for each number), count while marching, jumping, doing wall press offs, touching your head and then your tummy.  **Number Bonds to 5.**  I have put up number bond activities. You should be able to complete verbally and not have to print them out.  If you are accessing this on Google Classroom: There’s a Number Bonds to 5 file in the Maths section in Classwork.  If you are accessing this on the website: Look in the Extension Activities May 11th blogpost. |
|  | **Other Subjects** |
|  | **Story Time**  Please read a book with your child every day, if you can.  If you are running out of physical books at home take a look at these websites:  getepic.com, storylineonline.net, vooks.com  **Irish:**  Abair Liom. Lesson 4: Ag súgradh  Folens Online are providing free access to their Irish programme Abair Liom.   1. Go to [folensonline.ie](https://www.folensonline.ie/registration/?r=t) and click register 2. Select Teacher 3. Fill in a username, email and password 4. For Roll Number use the Code: Prim20. 5. An activation email will then be sent to your account. Follow the link. 6. Enter your email address and password again. When it asks you to personalise your account tick teacher, all subjects and Junior Infants. 7. Select Abair liom A and resources. 8. Click on Lesson (grey tab at the top) and pick a lesson. Lovely short videos and games.   **S.E.S.E. (Social, Environmental and Scientific Education):**  Theme: The Farm  See the English Oral Language section for activities.  **S.P.H.E. (Social Personal and Health Education):**  Here is a 21 days of mindfulness bootcamp for kids. Feel free to complete it at your leisure. The videos are all about 2 or 3 minutes long and very relaxing. It’s something the whole family can enjoy.  [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HB16XYD2huo&list=PLOL43Ch9yQXx70BqPbnNsW-\_hnuvMQMR8**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HB16XYD2huo&list=PLOL43Ch9yQXx70BqPbnNsW-_hnuvMQMR8)  **P.E.:**  10at10  Joe Wicks Body Coach  Cosmic Kids Yoga  Gonoodle.com  The Learning Station on Youtube  **Art:**  Make a map. See The Farm file in the Oral Language Section. Use the Map cut outs to make a map. Or alternatively draw your own map. Maybe you could bury treasure on your farm and explain to your family how to get to the treasure using the map.  **Music:**  <https://connect.collins.co.uk/school/portal.aspx>  Go to Collins Connect and click on the Teacher portal and enter:  Username: parents@harpercollins.co.uk  Password: Parents20!  and click Login.  You’ll find fabulous music lessons in the Music Express area.  **Recommended Websites:**  Readingeggs.com are doing a free month for parents when you sign up. It’s a fantastic website for English and Maths. I can highly recommend this website. It might come in handy also if you need a few minutes to yourself as the kids should be able to play it themselves.  Topmarks.co.uk is another one that has lots of educational games on it. |