English activities for Year 2

Reading / Spelling	Practise your **1st High Frequency words / Next 200 High Frequency Words** (on the school website under home learning, additional resources) / **Common Exception words for Year 2** Check which words your child can read without 'sounding out' and then focus on building sight fluency with 5 more words at a time. Write the words on pieces of paper/post it notes/pieces of card and lay out as flash cards. Keep repeating these and when they are secure add further words. You can play games such as 'Snap!' or memory by making double sets of the words and asking your child to read each word as they turn them over to make pairs.
Reading	**Our focus this term is 'On the Farm…' Do you have any books to do with the farm, animals or mini-beast and habitats?** **Listen to a story daily.** Discuss the story you have shared together. The bookmarks given previously will help with questioning. You probably have lots of lovely books at home, but if you're stuck and need some more inspiration, try out these… **Free Collins ebooks.** If you look back at last week's newsletter, Mrs Parkinson told you all about Big Cat Collins having a range of ebooks and also Buckinghamshire libraries having some books online and audio books too. There is a 'Kids' tab with books for different age ranges as well as popular reads, comics and read along books. **You Tube 'Learning Alive' JHS channel**. There are a selection of stories read by staff to listen to! **Oxford Owl** has a free e-book library with books that you can share with your child and books that they will be able to read to you. This is good for all types e.g. fiction, non-fiction and poetry… https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/find-a-book/library-page On **Audible** you can listen to a lovely range of books for free https://stories.audible.com/discovery Join **David Walliams** for his daily story https://www.worldofdavidwalliams.com/elevenses/ Here's some poetry too! https://childrens.poetryarchive.org/ **Literacy Trust** https://literacytrust.org.uk/news/katherine-rundell-launches-the-book-of-hopes-a-free-childrens-book-by-over-110-authors-and-illustrators/ 'Award-winning children's author, Katherine Rundell, has today launched The Book of Hopes: Words and Pictures to Comfort, Inspire and Entertain Children in Lockdown. Completely free for all children and families, the extraordinary collection of short stories, poems, essays and pictures has contributions from more than 110 children's writers and illustrators, including Lauren Child, Anthony Horowitz, Greg James and Chris Smith, Michael Morpurgo, Liz Pichon, Axel Scheffler, Francesca Simon, Jacqueline Wilson – and Katherine herself.

	The Book of Hopes aims to comfort, inspire and encourage children during lockdown through delight, new ideas, ridiculous jokes and heroic tales. There are true accounts of cats and hares and plastic-devouring caterpillars; there are doodles and flowers; revolting poems and beautiful poems; and there are stories of space travel and new shoes and dragons.' The story can be found here… https://issuu.com/bloomsburypublishing/docs/thebookofhopes_interactivepdf/1?ff
Comprehension	On the Home learning page for Y2, you will see **a selection of new comprehensions on Home Learning.** In the pack(s) there are a variety of texts. Choose a text that you like the look of. There are questions to ask about the text. Each text has *, ** or *** to choose from depending on how much of a challenge you feel you want/need! You don't need to print out the comprehensions and perhaps you could just write down the answers in your Home-School book or on a sheet of paper.
Phonics and Spelling	Practise your **1st High Frequency words / Tricky Words / Next 200 High Frequency Words** (inside your Home School Diary) / **Common Exception words** The best approach is 'Look, say, cover, write and check'. Write the word for the child to read. Then say the word out loud. Cover the word over and then write it down. Check the spelling against the correct spelling. This should be repeated several times for each word. Phonic word games and interactive learning resources: Phase 2 word games: https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/Phase2Menu.htm Phase 3 word games: https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/Phase3Menu.htm https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvq9bdm Phase 4 word games: https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/Phase4Menu.htm Phase 5 word games: https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/Phase5Menu.htm Phase 6 spelling pattern games: https://www.spellingplay.co.uk/y2_member/interactives_learning_words_1.html https://www.spellingplay.co.uk/y2_member/interactives_vowel_suffixes_1.html https://www.spellingplay.co.uk/y2_member/interactives_more_suffixes.html https://www.spellingplay.co.uk/y2_member/interactives_letter_strings_1.html https://www.spellingplay.co.uk/y2_member/interactives_apostrophes_1.html https://www.spellingplay.co.uk/y2_member/interactives_homophones_1.html
Writing	**A daily journal** Your child should write 3-6 sentences unaided about their day. Encourage the children to use their phonics to spell and also apply their high frequency words / tricky words / common exception words knowledge. Encourage them to read back and check what they have written. Please remind your child that each sentence must begin with a capital letter and end with a full stop. **A story** Let your imagination run wild. Just simply, write a story, about anything…

Information Writing	**Science** Your child can choose to write some information writing linked to science on plants and animals. See the relevant subjects under the Home Learning for inspiration. However, some of these ideas might inspire you: - the life cycle of a bean plant - diary of growing a bean or sunflower or similar - butterfly life cycle - information fact cards about particular plants, animals, mini beasts and their habitats - Amazing Animals / Marvellous Mini-beasts - You could write a fact book or poster - Mini-beasts from around the world – you could focus on particular countries of interest - A zoo leaflet or 'gardens' leaflet
Information / Letter Writing	**World Weeks: Sri Lanka** **Typically, in previous years, World Weeks has been a World Fortnight. However, as the children seem to be enjoying the 'project' so much and there are endless activities, we have chosen for this to carry on.** See Home Learning Geography for more details. Research and find out as much about Sri Lanka (its Geography, Culture or Religion etc.) and write an information booklet or poster about the country. Present it any way you would like to. You will also find **a letter from Mallika in Sri Lanka**. Read the letter and have a go at writing a reply. You could tell her about where you live and say how it's different or the same. Maybe you have a question or two to ask. There are some letter prompts and a word bank too that might help! We have seen some lovely example letters emailed. Keep up the good work!
Speaking & Listening	Create a 'Show and Tell' for your family at home, or to present to your other family and friends via Zoom or FaceTime or similar. **Try out a 'Listen and Draw' activity. See Home Learning resources.** Have a go at creating your own. Listen to Audiobooks or e-books (Go to Twinkl website) / Podcasts of your favourite stories / You Tube (under adult supervision) – see the links above too Listen to your favourite stories on CBeebies Play a game of 'I spy' or 'Guess who' Play 'I'm an Expert in…' Choose your favourite topic to talk about for 1-2 minutes. It could be your favourite traditional tale, the Great Fire of London, Space, Flags or Capital cities… In fact, it can be anything you want to be!
Poetry Writing stimuli	Write a riddle poem… **I am a snowman's nose,** **And a reindeer's Christmas Eve treat.** **I'm good to eat, but crunchy when raw;** **Bugs Bunny's favourite.** **What am I?** See other 'Riddles' resources in the Home Learning Y2 section. - Animal Riddles sheets - Beach Riddles sheets

	- Sea Riddles sheets - Farm animals What am I? PPT 1 - Farm animals What am I? PPT 2 - Mini-beasts What am I? PPT - Jungle animals What am I? PPT 1 - Jungle animals What am I? PPT 2 - Riddle Activity PPT - The cautious caterpillar What am I? PPT
Poetry Reading	Read some riddles and share them See the 'Riddles' resources in the Home Learning Y2 section.
Poetry Speaking & Listening	Learn a riddle off by heart, share it with a family member
Writing General	See Home Learning – Year 2 – Writing section for other ideas and inspiration!
SPAG & T4W	On the Home Learning tab, Year 2, you will see there are some SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) activities to work through. One unit is regards **Correct punctuation.** One unit concerns **Statements and exclamations**. The third unit concerns **Questions and Commands**. You can work through the activities at your own leisure. There are also two **Talk for Writing units** on Home Learning **'The Elves and the Shoemaker' and 'The Magical Teaching Box'** for Year 2. You can work through the pack. There is no race to get to the end!
Take English outside (some ideas adaptable for inside too) Help for reluctant writers	Create a **'Reading Den'** outside – provide some simple den building materials e.g. cardboard, boxes, sheets, towels, blankets, chairs, a tent, rope, string, cushions etc. Then collect your favourite books to read or share with your siblings or parents. Go on a book scavenger hunt. Can you… find a book with an animal, find a book with a superhero, find a book that makes you laugh, find a book about pirates, find a book about food… Discuss the different books you have found. Which is your favourite? Why? **Spellings activities:** Rainbow Words - Choose one coloured chalk to write your spellings on the ground. Then, go over them in 4 other colours. Sand Words - With your finger, write your spellings in the sand. Spelling Shapes - Count your spelling words. Draw one shape on the ground with coloured chalk for each word. Now, write a spelling word inside each of the shapes. Musical Spellings - Using a musical instrument, say or sing your spellings. Join with a sibling or parent maybe and see if you can make a song using as many of your spellings as you can. Splat the Word – Chalk High Frequency words, tricky words, common exception words on patio slabs, outdoor walls, fences (but check with an adult first) Get a clipboard / or be creative and get something to attach your paper to for using outside. Use a variety of writing materials: pencils, colouring pencils, highlighters, felt tips…

	Keep a diary about what is growing in the garden and changing. You could describe the weather conditions too. Write about the mini-beasts, birds or wildlife you find in the garden and write down what they look like and their habitats. Write a bank of adjectives (describing words). What can you see, hear, feel/touch, smell? Create a character out of natural materials on the patio, write in chalk, key words about them around it. Think of interesting vocabulary, adjectives and similes. Create your own Story stones. All you need is some flat and smooth stones from the garden or something similar like oval card and decorate them with pictures or objects or animals. Choose one of the stones and start a tale based on the picture on it. You can then draw more pictures on stones to continue your story if need be. This is a great way to develop vocabulary as well as promote listening and attention and understanding skills. Make your own potion outside using coloured water, bowls, petals, sticks, herbs etc. Write instructions how to make it. What you need? Write each step. What does the potion do? Collect a box of interesting things to create a story box. You don't need to write your story. You could just say it! Say it out loud to an adult or an older sibling that might be able to write it down for you. Take your pencil for a walk… write whatever you like, it doesn't matter, for 10 minutes. Put a timer on to countdown to make it super exciting. There's no right or wrong. It doesn't have to be sentences, it can be just words or phrases. Change your position – sit down, stand up, lay down on your front, sit on a chair, or bean bag or a cushion, against a wall. Although handwriting should be at a chair and desk, sometimes it's ok to take the pressure off and to experiment. Write down 'silly actions' to hold up on banners / card for your family to follow e.g. stand on one leg, jump up and down and pat your head. Draw picture clues too. Create a new game to play. Write down, draw or label the instructions. Be as creative as you like. Write a review and recommend a new game to someone. Write a postcard from Mars or any other planet! A story board - draw ideas. You don't have to write it, you can type it! Most of the ideas linked to writing could be done on a computer or easily dictated. Modern technology sometimes has a facility to listen to what you say / record audio and to type it for you! There are **two NEW 'Is it writing?' booklets on the Home Learning** should you be finding any reluctant writers at home. Some lovely, useful ideas – very clever! **Is it writing SPACE? Is it writing OUT AND ABOUT?**

Other	If you go to **BBC Bitesize** KS1 English, you will find a selection of lessons, activities linked to Phonics, Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation, Reading & Writing, Speaking and Listening, Types of Text. These can be used for further inspiration. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zgkw2hv There are a selection of English lessons e.g. using conjunctions to join sentences, using commas in lists in statements, Reading lessons – including one about Funnybones, creating sentences with description, creating a mini-beast factfile, writing sentences using capital letters, full stops and joining words and so much more… https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/z7s22sg/year-2-and-p3-lessons/1 **Purple Mash** If you go to English there is a collection of different resources to inspire you: English tools, SPAG resources, Writing Genres and Themes and an app called Simple City to play too. If you visit Scholastic website, you will find some Julia Donaldson Home Learning Activity Packs. https://resource-bank.scholastic.co.uk/content/FREE-Julia-Donaldson-and-Axel-Scheffler-Home-Learning-Packs-40114
School Learning / Home Learning	There are a selection of activities for all to access, whether the children are at Home Learning or at School Learning. We have included activities on (see up above for further detail on SPAG and Talk for Writing. Phonics Spelling Handwriting Reading Comprehensions (as per above) Riddles (as per above) SPAG activities – numbered in a rough order to work through Listen and Draw (as per above) Reluctant Writers (as per above) Y2 The Elves and the Shoemaker Talk for Writing Workbook Y2 The Magical Teaching Box