

S&L Top Tips KS1 – Term 3

Our termly tip for supporting your child's vocabulary and language development

To help improve children's literacy and reading ability it's important to develop their phonological awareness skills. Try these activities below to help your child with this:

Initial and final sound identification:

Say some words aloud and ask your child what the first sound is from a choice of three sounds (picture cards, or writing the sounds on a whiteboard or paper, can be used to support this). Be sure that your child is identifying the sound, not the letter. E.g. the initial sound in phone is 'f' but the initial letter is 'p'.

If your child finds this easy try asking them to say the word rather than you. E.g. hold an object or picture card and them to say it, then ask them what the first sound is. It can be harder for them to do this from their own production of the word rather than an adult's.

If they are finding initial sound identification easy, you can ask them to identify the final sounds in the words. Be sure that children are identifying the sound, not the letter. E.g. the final sound in juice is 's' but the final letter is 'e'.

Please also see link below on ideas to help your child's story telling skills:

<https://speechandlanguage.org.uk/help-for-families/resource-library-for-families/support-your-childs-story-telling-skills/>