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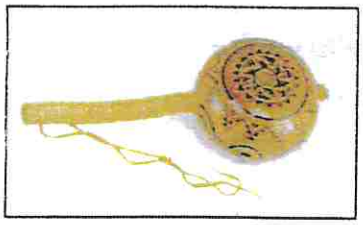
Hamilton
Academy

Head teacher: Stephen Nunn

Ways to support your child's pre-reading skills at home -



Making shakers –

Rhythm is a very important part of speech development.

Making shakers and playing in time to songs allows the children to experience and appreciate rhythm and rhyme and to develop awareness of rhythm and rhyme in speech.

Listen to the beat; guess the instrument/sound –

Listening and moving to music at home, or in the car, encourages your children to listen and feel rhythm.

By guessing what they can hear, the children develop their listening skills and become able to differentiate sounds.

Use rhyming books, and books with repetitive words as part of your daily book-sharing session. Read these books with plenty of intonation and expression so that the children tune into the rhythm of the language and the rhyming words.

Encourage your children to join in with repetitive phrases in books such as:

'Run, run, as fast as you can, you can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread Man', or 'Can't go over it, can't go under it, got to go through it'.

Learning songs and rhymes – singing everyday as part of your routine and through the day, and having fun with them naturally makes speech and language development occur.
Sing or chant familiar songs from your own childhood, or nursery rhymes and encourage your child to move in an appropriate way (e.g. rock gently to the beat of 'Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star')

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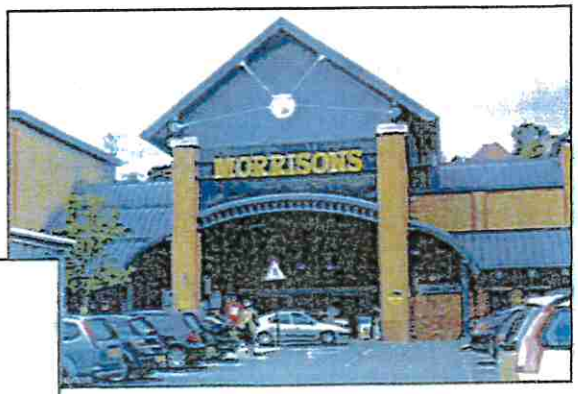
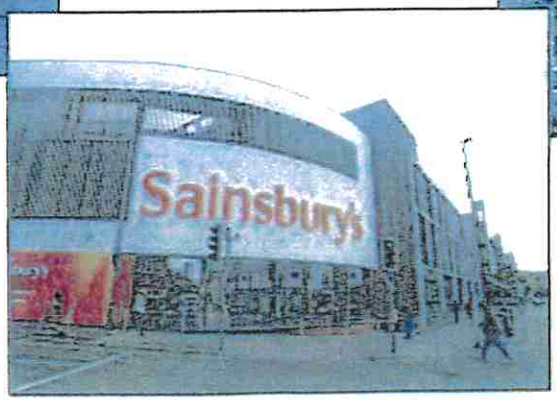
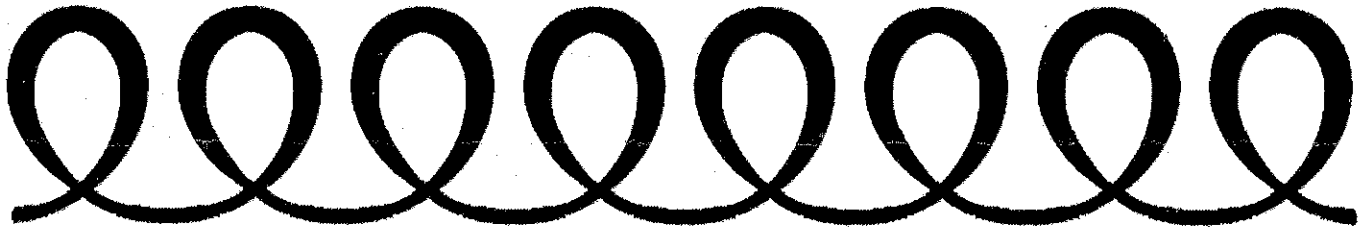
Baskets of objects beginning with the same sound (alliteration)

The children are able to play with objects that begin with the same letter, and therefore automatically pronounce the initial letter that you would like

Looking for familiar signs when you are out –

When you look at familiar signs, such as Morrison's, you begin to show your child the real purpose of letters, and gradually your child will begin to see these, and point them out to you:

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