

Making literacy fun outdoors...1



## Inspector Phonics

Phonics is one of the most effective ways of teaching children to read. We chose to use one of our play trays and our lovely, soft sand but this is a great activity that you can try outdoors in the garden on a dry, sunny day. Ask your little inspectors to choose a jumbo magnifying glass as they are on a mission to find the corresponding phonic sounds with the images that you have hidden in the sand.

### What you'll need

- 801659 YPO Play Tray – Black
- 801663 YPO Play Tray Stand
- 803022 YPO Play Sand
- 135755 Card
- 735110 YPO Jumbo Colouring Pens
- 460974 Jumbo Magnifying Glasses
- 309889 Scissors
- 800161 Large Sea Shells
- Phonics letters and corresponding images (laminated if outdoors)



Featured in  
Issue 10  
Spring 2020

[ypo.co.uk/earlyyears](http://ypo.co.uk/earlyyears)



## Making literacy fun outdoors...2



### Sight Words Hoopla

What better way to learn sight words than to provide an active, engaging and multi-sensory activity? This was a fun outdoor activity which helped develop those fine motor skills and coordination whilst learning colours and words. Watch out for those fly-away hoopla's!

#### What you'll need

- 283622 Flat Faced Hoops
- 735110 YPO Jumbo Colouring Pens
- Recycled Plastic Bottles
- 711632 Sticky Tape
- Water
- 110770 White Paper
- Food Colouring, available in 4 colours  
851213 Blue, 85123X Red,  
851221 Green, 851248 Yellow
- Handwritten / printed sight words

#### Method

1. Fill your recycled water bottles with coloured water, play sand and pebbles to create your targets.
2. Using the paper, make labels of some sight words and stick them to the front of your bottles. This can be used for any phonic word activity, but we used these common high frequency words.
3. Take it in turns to throw plastic hoops over a bottle to identify each of the sight words.



Featured in  
Issue 10  
Spring 2020

[ypo.co.uk/earlyyears](http://ypo.co.uk/earlyyears)



Making literacy fun outdoors...3

## Story Time Play Tray – Three Little Pigs

Story time brings children together and lets them use their imaginations. We used a story that our little ones were familiar with and provided them with the materials to recreate the story. This style of story time encouraged them to develop their imagination, creativity and language skills. As you can see, they were totally engaged in messy play and building a defence against the big bad wolf!

### What you'll need

- 801659 YPO Play Tray – Black
- 801663 YPO Play Tray Stand
- 801642 YPO Artificial Grass Play Tray Mat
- Straw / hay – we bought some from the local pet shop
- 808253 Moss Sheets
- 301723 Twig Branches
- 520723 Three Little Pigs Story Set
- 800686 Creative LEGO DUPLO Brick Set

### Method

1. We set up the play tray with all the materials to build the houses and added the toy characters from the story set.
2. The children were encouraged to build their little house structures for each little pig, using their understanding of the materials from the story and their own creative skills.



Featured in  
Issue 10  
Spring 2020

[ypo.co.uk/earlyyears](http://ypo.co.uk/earlyyears)