**Fun activities to add to your routine**

* Try sharing familiar books at bedtime. Pause when reading so that your child can join in. Talk about the sounds at the beginning of words and words that start with the same sound (like words beginning with P). If it is a book with rhyme ask them to listen for the words that rhyme. Can they tell you what they are? Give them some examples yourself first.
* Encourage your child to recall what has happened in the story. For example, ‘Why is bear feeling sad?’ Ask them to guess what might happen – ‘What should they do next?’ – or how the story might end – ‘Do you think they’re going to find the treasure? Where could it be?’
* Talk to your child about what they can see. Play games like, ‘I spy with my little eye something beginning with…’ and say the first sound of the thing that you can see – ‘something beginning with b-b-b-b.’ You can go first and show your child how the game works.
* Try role-playing games together such as shopping. Set items out on the sofa, give your child a bag and some pretend money. Then switch roles and let them be the shopkeeper.
* Play teddy bears’ picnic. Put soft toys in a circle and give your child a few cups and spoons. Give your child a chance to tell you what to do like, ‘Stir teddy’s tea.’
* Plan a treasure hunt game, where your child has to listen to your instructions to find a clue or an object. For example, ‘It is next to / on top of / behind / under…’
* Sort toys by colour and build a rainbow with the different coloured toys or objects. Go on a hunt round the house for objects that are the same colour. How many can you find?
* Sort items from the cupboard by size. Ask your child to order them from biggest to smallest?
* Play memory games. Put a selection of toys or objects out and ask your child to turn around or close their eyes. Take one object away and see if they can tell you which is missing.
* Explore outdoors…. Use chalks to draw on the ground or use paintbrushes and water to paint the fence. Find sticks, leaves, grass, stones etc. and use them to make a picture. Give the toys / figures / dolls / toy cars a wash. Make an obstacle course.

Apps for 2 to 5 year olds

We know that phones or tablets are part of many families’ everyday lives and kids love to use them, but it’s not always easy to know which apps and games can benefit your child’s learning.
Why not try these with your child alongside the other suggested activities?

* **CBeebies Storytime**CBeebies Storytime is filled with free interactive story books and bedtime stories for young children and is a great way to enjoy reading with your little one. The library is always growing, with amazing stories featuring all the CBeebies’ favourites.Age: 0-5 Platform: [Apple](https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/bbc-cbeebies-storytime/id891730883?mt=8), [Android](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=air.uk.co.bbc.cbeebiesstorytime), [Amazon](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Media-Applications-Technologies-Ltd-Storytime/dp/B00LXAM040)
* **CBeebies Playtime Island**CBeebies Playtime Island contains a wide range of fun and educational games to help children understand the world around them and support the development of core skills. Children can play along with all of CBeebies’ most popular characters.Age: 0-5Platform: [Apple](https://itunes.apple.com/app/apple-store/id1140156471?pt=342230&ct=Grown-Ups-Website&mt=8), [Android](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.bbc.cbeebiesplaytimeisland&referrer=utm_source=grown-ups-website), [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com/gp/mas/dl/android?p=uk.co.bbc.cbeebiesplaytimeisland)
* **Lingumi - Kids' English**Lingumi provides a course focused on spoken and communicative English. The app provides sets of learning games, speech recognition games and video-based games to help the child grow their grammar and get them speaking their first words.Age: 2-5 Platform: [Apple](https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/lingumi-english-for-kids/id1166747151), [Android](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.lingumi.lingumiplay&hl=en_GB)
* **More educational apps available from the app store…**
* LEGO DUPLO WORLD
* Meet the numberblocks!
* Pocket Phonics Stories
* Homer Reading: Learn to Read
* Hopster: Pre-school, Games and TV
* Teacher your monster to read

Websites for 2 to 5 year olds

Lots of website are offering free subscriptions and have fun educational games and activities for young children. Have a look at some of these….

* Twinkl offer lots of printable resources and activity ideas.

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/>

* Nursery activity ideas

<https://www.nurseryactivityideas.co.uk/>

* Oxford owl

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/advice-for-parents/fun-ideas-learning-at-home/>

* Famly

<https://famly.co/blog/inspiration/10-simple-communication-and-language-activities/>

* Phonics play

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/Phase1Menu.htm>

* Letters and sounds

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-1-games.html>

* Muddy puddle teacher

<http://themuddypuddleteacher.co.uk/>

* EYFS Home learning resource pack

<https://kids.classroomsecrets.co.uk/>

* Easy baking ideas

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/kids-baking>

<http://www.foodnetwork.co.uk/article/baking-kids.html>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/fun-baking-projects-kids>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/top-5-easy-bakes-kids>

<http://www.foodnetwork.co.uk/recipe/healthy-keyword.html?utm_source=foodnetwork.com&utm_medium=domestic>