



Name \_\_\_\_\_

# Taking away



This week we have revisited work on practical subtraction and have tried to build up the children's mathematical vocabulary through different tasks.

To continue to support your child with this work, we ask that you carry out the following activities.

**Task 1**  
Using number rhymes is a lively way to engage children in subtraction activities, we have a range of nursery rhymes we sing with the children to help them practically subtract such as:

'10 green bottles, 10 fat sausages, 5 little monkeys, 5 currant buns and 5 little speckled frogs.'  
To find these rhymes which you could encourage your children to enact, please go to

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learning/schoolradio/subjects/earlylearning/nurserysongs>

**Extension**  
To extend the learning opportunities for your child, use blocks or bricks and make a tower. Ask your child to count the number of bricks or blocks used and ask them to 'take away' a certain number or 'subtract' a number. Then ask your child to count how many they have left. You could then record this as a sum for your child to see.  
Please have fun and let us know how your child responds to the tasks.



### Our Nativity Play *The Holy Night* Well Done Reception

We were very proud of the way the children sang and acted in their Christmas Play today. They have spent the last few weeks busily learning the words and actions to the songs and we are sure you would agree that they performed beautifully. We hope that this work on the Christmas story will have taught the children about the importance of Jesus' birth in an enjoyable way.

### Phonics reinforcement.

During our daily phonic sessions we sometimes play games to help reinforce the children's knowledge of a particular sound. A website that we use that you may like to look at with your child is

<http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/>

On this website you will find a range of games which allow you to revisit sounds we have taught the children in the classroom. Popular games with the children at the moment are 'Obb and Bob' and 'Buried Treasure.'

### Handwriting

We have continued to teach the children the entry stroke to our pre-cursive script and as you work with your child, please remind them to start from the 'baseline' and to go 'up the hill' every time they form an entry stroke.

This week our focus letter has been 'h.'

Please work with your child on forming this letter and use the following vocabulary, 'Up the big hill, down the long ladder, half way back up, over the rainbow, down and flick.'

By using this language, you will reinforce our work at school and help your child form their letters.

Encourage your child to use a range of tools. If they find manipulating smaller tools difficult at this time, perhaps work with water and paintbrushes in the garden, or paint and paint brushes on large sheets of paper. Rainbow writing is also fun, so a range of colourful felt tips or colouring pencils could be used.

Thank you.

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### Tricky Words

In our phonics lessons we have continued to teach the children their tricky words.

We explain that these are words that cannot be sounded out, but that you learn by 'sight.' These are the words that we have worked on so far.

the	to	I
no	go	into
he	she	we
me	be	was
you	they	all
are	my	her
said	have	like

### Parents in Partnership Letters on our website

Just to let you know, if you ever misplace a Parents in Partnership newsletter, they are all available on the school website. Just go to <http://www.staugustines.dorset.sch.uk/website/reception/3032>

Thank you.

### Phonics and Word blending

Please note that this week we have added the letters 'z' and 'q' to your child's phonics book. Please spend time looking at all the letters in the phonics books we have so far taught.

s	a	t	p	i	n
m	d	g	o	c	k
e	u	f	r	h	b
l	j	v	w	x	y
z	q				

The words below are words containing v and w that you could help your child decode using their 'robot' arms.'

zip	zap	fizz
quiz	quit	quack
quick		

Please cut off and return this slip to school. Thank you.

My child's response to the tasks.