

Basic skills are the important building-blocks of learning.
Speaking and Listening, counting, reading and writing.

Help your child acquire basic skills by:

- taking every opportunity which arises to talk about things
- ask them questions to make them think about the world
- give them new words to extend their vocabulary and articulate their feelings and ideas.
- let them listen to adult conversations, even if they only appear to be playing, they will be picking up language!
- look for patterns and shapes as you are out and about—always listen to your child's ideas, however "odd" they may seem
- counting can be explored in all situations, but please be careful to encourage children to count carefully (touch if possible) to ensure one-to one correspondence rather than just chant numbers i.e. run from tree to tree in the park and count each one as you reach it.
- let your child help when you are cooking if you can – there is a wealth of opportunity to count ingredients such as currants, carrots, peas etc.
- read to your child as much as you can—let them see you reading too!
- always switch off the television or radio if you are reading to your child, encourage them to look carefully at the pictures and tell you what they see.
- spend time with books and talk the language of books, teach them to handle books carefully, go to the library to borrow books and bookshops to spend birthday money.



All Around Us



Year One & Two Autumn Term One

Helping your child's
learning at home....



Year One / Two Topic for Autumn Term One



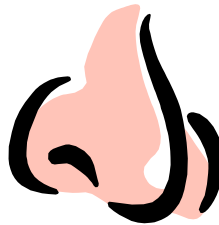
All Around Us



During this topic we will be looking at Tadley. We will look closely at the local environment, identifying buildings and features. We will be undertaking visits to the local area, to investigate and identify local amenities and facilities. If you are able to help on these visits, please do not hesitate to come in and see us.

We will look at atlases and make our own maps of the local area. We will also look at story settings and make imaginary maps and plans.

In science we will be using our senses to find out about the world around us. We will undertake sound and smell walks. We will also be undertaking taste tests, so please let us know if your child has any food allergy.



Things you can do at home:

- ◆ Look through local newspapers. Find lots of different pictures of places around make a collage of all the different places.
- ◆ Look at atlases and maps and plans and identify features and places.
- ◆ Guess the place. Give clues to a facility or place in Tadley.
- ◆ Make a map of their own imaginary town. Draw or use collage pictures of things they would like.
- ◆ Undertake taste tests. Blindfold each other and guess what is being eaten!
- ◆ Look at key features that can be seen on their walk/drive to school.

Websites you may like to visit.

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/barnabybear
www.streetmap.co.uk