Key Skills for EYFS

Lancashire Literacy Team



Key Skills for EYFS - Lancashire Literacy Team © Lancashire County Council (Autumn 2013)

Key Skills for the EYFS

What are the key skills?

The key skills are the small step goals for Reception children to work through to achieve the 'Expected' ELGs in Reading and Writing.

Where have they come from?

The key skills have been identified primarily from the EYFS. Other key documents cross referenced in their preparation include *Development Matters, Letters and Sounds*, and Lancashire *Assessment and Progression* materials.

How are they different from the EYFS ELGs?

There were two main aims in creating *Key Skills for EYFS*. The first aim was to pull out the key steps in learning to enable clear planning for the Literacy elements within EYFS, and the second was to provide a clear progression to achieve the ELGs for the Prime and Specific aspects towards the 'Expected' Level.

How might the key skills be useful?

The key skills should help to focus, and be exemplified, during whole class and group teaching. Taught in the context of lively, engaging and creative themes, they help to ensure that pupils make progress as readers and writers. Teaching should ensure that skills are modelled and scaffolded and that pupils are given opportunities to apply them in a range of different contexts and through continuous provision.

Prime areas:	Listening and Attention	Understanding	Speaking
	 Listen with enjoyment to stories, songs, rhymes and poems Sustain attentive listening in a range of situations Respond with relevant, comments, questions or actions Give attention to what others say and respond appropriately Follow instructions Exceeding: Follow more complex/several part instructions accurately Exceeding: Ask for clarification e.g. about instructions given to them Exceeding: Listen with sustained concentration for longer periods 	 Answer questions in response to who, what, where, when about experiences, stories and events Answer questions in response to why and how about experiences, stories and events Recognise own name, familiar words and advertising logos Exceeding: Express views about characters in a story or the story as a whole Exceeding: Answer questions using 'think, say, feel' prompts about experiences, stories and events Exceeding: Answer questions about why things happen in a story 	 Use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences in play situations Use talk to organise and sequence ideas, feelings and events Use talk to clarify thinking Use talk to express themselves effectively in a range of situations Show awareness of listeners' needs when communicating Use past, present and future forms when discussing events and experiences Develop own narratives by connecting ideas or events Exceeding: Show awareness of the listener (audience) by making changes to language and non-verbal features Exceeding: Use a range of vocabulary to add information, express ideas and explain actions or events. Exceeding: Justify ideas and experiences

Specific areas:	Phonics for Reading	Phonics for Writing
	 Phase 1 Blend VC words orally e.g. at, it, in, up, Blend CVC words orally e.g. top, run, bed, rat Phase 2 Blend VC words using phonemes s, a, t, p, i, n - e.g. at, in, is, it Blend CVC words using all above and m, d, g, o e g. dog, mad, gap Blend CVC words using all above and c, k, ck, e, u, r - e.g. sock, neck, rack Blend CVC words using all above and h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss - e.g. huff, hiss, bill Phase 3 Blend CVC words using all above and ch, sh, th, ng - e.g. chip, shop, this, thin, song Blend CVC words using all above and ai, ee, igh, oa, oo - e.g. rain, teeth, night, coat, boot, good Blend CVC words using all above and ar, or, ur, ow, oi - e.g. cart, fork, curl, down, soil Blend CVC words using all above and ar, or, ur, ow, oi - e.g. cart, fork, curl, down, soil Blend CVC words using all phonemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. paint, tights, boils, shelf, toast Blend CVC words using all phonemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. spoon, clown, float, sweet Blend CVC words using all phonemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. spoon, clown, float, sweet Blend CVCC, CCCVC, CCCVCC words using all phonemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. spoon, clown float, sweet Blend CVC coverds using all phonemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. spoon, clown float, sweet Blend CVCC, CCCVC, CCCVCC words using all phonemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. frost, street, scrunch Blend words with more than one syllable e.g. turnip, sister, cooking 	 Phase 1 Segment VC words orally e.g. at, it, in, up, Segment CVC words orally e.g. top, run, bed, rat, Phase 2 Segment and write VC words using grapheme s, a, t, p, i, n - e.g. at, in, is, it Segment CVC words using graphemes s, a, t, p, i, n - e.g. sit, pit, pat, pan, tip Segment CVC words using all above and m, d, g, o e.g. dog, mad, gap Segment CVC words using all above and c, k, ck, e, u, r e.g. sock, neck, rack Segment CVC words using all above and h, b, f, ff, l, ll, ss e.g. huff, hiss, bill Phase 3 Segment CVC words using all above and j, v, w, x, y, z, zz, qu e.g. jack, buzz, vet, quick Segment CVC words using all above and ai, ee, igh, oa, oo e.g. rain, teeth, night, coat, boot, good Segment CVC words using all above and ai, ee, igh, oa, oo e.g. cart, fork, curl, down, soil Segment CVC words using all above and ar, or, ur, ow, oi e.g. cart, fork, curl, down, soil Segment CVC words using all graphemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. paint, tights, boils, shelf, toast Segment CVCC words using all graphemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. spoon, clown, float, sweet Segment CVCC words using all graphemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. spoon, clown, float, sweet Segment CVCC words using all graphemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. spoon, clown, float, sweet Segment CVCC words using all graphemes covered in Phase 2 and 3 e.g. frost, street, scrunch

Reading	Writing
 Pink Band Texts Differentiate between text and illustration Understand that print conveys meaning Decode a number of regular words using phase 2 phonemes with build and blend strategy, and read aloud accurately Read common irregular words from Phase 2 - the to I no go into Hold a book correctly and turn pages from front to back and recognise front and back cover Know that, in English, print is read from left to right and top to bottom Predict the storyline e.g. ending Recite rhymes and sings songs Talk about events, setting and characters Predict storyline and some vocabulary, aided by the illustrations Retell narratives in the correct sequence, drawing on language patterns of stories Red Band texts Use decoding to read -using build and blend strategy - towards automatically reading known words Read simple sentences Recognise some capitals and lower case letters Link sounds to letters, naming and sounding letters of the alphabet Respond to questions about who, what, where, when linked to text and illustrations Sequence a simple story or event Use gestures and actions to act out a story, event or rhyme from text or illustrations Make predictions based on illustrations, story content and title Respond to questions about how and why something is happening Say what a character might be thinking, saying or feeling 	 Segment to write VC and CVC words independently using Phase 2 and Phase 3 graphemes e.g. it, mop, bell Make phonetically plausible attempts when writing more complex words Spell tricky words the, to, I, no, go independently Write own name Write left to right and top to bottom Orally compose a sentence and hold it in memory before attempting to write it Write a simple phrase with finger spaces, that can be read back by themselves and others Use talk to organise, sequence and clarify thinking, ideas, feelings and events Write different text forms for different purposes e.g. lists, stories, instructions, labels, captions, recipes, postcards, menus Exceeding: Use key features of narrative in own writing

Reading	Writing
 Yellow Band texts Read on sight words from Lists 1 and 2 Distinguish between a word, a letter and a space Use picture clues to help in reading simple text Make 1 to 1 correspondence between written and spoken words. Blend phonemes to read a range of words using build and blend towards automaticity – fluency and accuracy Use phonic knowledge to attempt unknown words Listen attentively to a story at the appropriate interest level Say how they feel about stories and poems Recall the main points in texts in the correct sequence Use the structure of a simple story when re-enacting and retelling Talk about the themes of simple texts, e.g. good over evil Act out a story in role play 	

Early Learning Goal – Reading	Early Learning Goal – Writing
Expected	Expected
Children read and understand simple sentences. They use phonic knowledge to	Children use their phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their
decode regular words and read them aloud accurately. They also read some	spoken sounds. They also write some irregular common words. They write
common irregular words. They demonstrate an understanding when talking with	sentences which can be read by themselves and others. Some words are spelt
others about what they have read.	correctly and others are phonetically plausible
Exceeding	Exceeding
Children can read phonically regular words of more than one syllable as well as	Children can spell phonically regular words of more than one syllable as well as
many irregular but high frequency words. They use phonic, semantic and syntactic	many irregular but high frequency words. They use key features of narrative in
knowledge to understand unfamiliar vocabulary. They can describe the main	their own writing.
events in the simple stories they have read.	

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