



Getting prepared for achieving in Year 6 booklet

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, your children will be taking the Year 6 Key Stage 2 tests (commonly known as **SATs**) next year, and these will take place in May 2019. These tests are focused on the core skills that will ensure further success at secondary school – **reading, writing and maths**. We will be working hard at school with your children on these core skills to prepare your child for these tests in Year 6 and, whilst it seems a long way off, we value any support that you can give to your children now to achieve well and get prepared.

Enclosed in this pack are some ideas which you can use at home, or whilst out and about, to help to prepare your child for their tests next year and to extend their skills in reading, writing and maths. Helping them to improve knowledge and skills is important but just as key are the personal things like encouragement, as well as making sure they get enough sleep!

We hope you find this helpful. **We'll also be holding a fun and informative session for parents in the Autumn Term to help prepare your children, and we'll let you know more about this in September.**

Many thanks for your support!

Mr Dodman and Mrs Hart, The Year 6 Team

English

Maths

Try to help your child to improve their **reading speed** by reading an extract from a suitably challenging text. Time them. Repeat. Can they beat their time? Ask a couple of questions about the extract to check their understanding.

Hunt for ... give your child timed challenges when reading. For example, how many adverbs/adjectives can you find in 2 minutes?

Play games to develop their **vocabulary and spelling**. Try games like: Scrabble, Boggle, Pictionary and Taboo. What does the word mean? Can they spell it? Can they use it in a sentence?

At Home



Use the receipt from your **shopping** to ask questions e.g. what is the total of the fruit and vegetables? What change would I get from £50? While unpacking the shopping, guess the weight of items then weigh them. What is the difference in weights?

Practise **times tables daily** in the car, at the breakfast table, whilst playing football, wherever! Can your child recall their facts instantly? Playing **darts** can be great for practising doubling and tripling numbers.

Newspaper maths – use league tables or weather charts to ask questions e.g. what is the difference between the temperature in London and Moscow? What is the mean (average) of the points scored in the Premier League?

English

Listen to the lyrics of songs on the **radio**. Can they identify the adjectives? Can they give a synonym (a word with a similar meaning) or antonym (opposite meaning) for one of the words?

Look at objects and places they pass while travelling. Pick out a word and play '**Just a Minute**' – explain what the object is without using the word itself and without hesitating or repeating themselves.

Telling a story. Give the first line of a story and take it in turns to continue it. Begin each sentence with a conjunction e.g. next, after that, some time later, finally ...

Maths

Number plates – look at the numbers on number plates and create questions based on them e.g. subtract the number from 1000 or multiply/divide the number by 10/100 or 1000.

Sequences. Choose a starting number and a rule. Take it in turns to say the next number in the sequence e.g. start with 19 and add/subtract 8. How far can you take the sequence before an error is made? Try decimals too.

Odd one out. Give your child four numbers and ask them which is the odd one out and why e.g. 12, 19, 18 and 21. 19 is the odd one out because it is the only prime number.

On the Move



English

Maths

When visiting somewhere, challenge your child to come up with '**Pointless** **adjectives**'. In other words, an adjective that no-one else would think of e.g. a *monumental* tree, a *formidable* skate boarding slope.

Practise standard English by using the '**posh voice**'. Pretend you are a visitors' guide and explain the key highlights of the place using correct standard English.

Select an object at the place and take it in turns to see how many **antonyms** or **synonyms** you can think of for the word e.g. an antonym of steep is *gentle*; a synonym could be *sheer*.

Out and About



How long? Select a starting and finishing point in the place. Estimate how many seconds/minutes it would take to walk the distance, then time it. What is the difference between the two times? Who was the closest?

I-spy. Play the game by describing the properties of a shape which can be seen e.g. I-spy a quadrilateral with only one pair of parallel lines (*a trapezium*).

How much? Use entrance fees or a menu to create questions. How much would it cost for 2 adults and 2 children? What would be the change from £50?

Encourage your child to take plenty of **exercise**. Why not go out for a walk together after your evening meal? What about a bike ride at the week end?

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day. Why not create some **healthy breakfast menus** together? Or try some of the healthy recipes from the 'Power to Perform' recipe booklet?

Device-free time – why not challenge your child to spend an hour each evening away from screens and electronic devices? What about a board game instead or going outside to play?

Well-being



Try to make sure your child has a regular routine for going to bed and getting up.

If they are working at home, a quiet place away from distractions is ideal. Try to encourage them to do a little and often and take regular breaks.

Try to encourage your child to do their best. Remind them about being resilient – keep on going!