

English

This week, we're looking at the present and past tense of verbs.

In your English booklet, have a go at these pages:

1. Verbs with -ing: present tense

Verbs in the present tense tell us what is happening now.

When you use the -ing form of the verb in the present tense, you use it alongside 'am', 'is' or 'are'.

It is raining.

They are waiting.

2. Verbs with -ing: past tense

Verbs in the past tense tell us what has already happened.

When you use the -ing form of the verb in the past tense, you use it alongside 'was' or 'were'.

It was raining.

They were waiting.

3. Revision 2

Your next activity this week is a little reminder of all the grammar, spelling and punctuation that you've been practising over the last few weeks. I'd like you to look at the page in your English booklet called Revision 2 and see if you can complete the 8 questions (2 sides). You're allowed to look back over your booklet for a refresher if you've forgotten how to do something or what something is. The revision covers **nouns**, **adjectives**, **sentence punctuation**, **sentence types**, and **past and present tenses**.

4. My Favourite Animal

Your fourth activity is a writing task - the details are on the page in your English booklet called **My Favourite Animal**, but here's a summary anyway...

Write about your favourite animal. Your task is to describe the animal and to explain why you chose it. You can choose any animal you like.

Things to think about:

- What animal have you chosen?
- Can you describe what it looks like? (Pretend I've never seen or heard of one)
- Does it make any noises?
- Where does it live?
- What does it eat?
- Why have you chosen this animal?
- What's your favourite thing about it?

Remember to SAY IT, WRITE IT, then READ IT BACK, as well as remembering all the things I love to see in your writing. You could also add some illustrations, if you'd like.

Note for parents: the aim of the English pack is to help children maintain and develop their understanding of sentence structure, punctuation, grammar and spelling. The activities are easily extended if needed by asking them to apply the skill in a similar manner to the 'sentence practice' at the bottom of each page.

5. Spell Blast

This week, we're going to practise some **homophones** (and near homophones). Homophones are words which sound the same (or similar) but have different meanings and spellings. Even though the spellings are often straight forward, it can be hard to know when to use which spelling, so don't worry if you get muddled with these at times. We'll be practising homophones for the next couple of weeks, so there's plenty of time to get used to them.

There are 3 videos to help with homophones here:

[BBC Bitesize - Homophones](#)

This week's words are: **there**, **their**, **they're**, **here**, **hear**, **see**, **sea**, **to**, **too** and **two**

You find Spell Blast on **School360 > Resources > J2e > Spell Blast**

You can find this word list by clicking '**Have a practice**' and choosing the '**Shared**' tab. The list is called **Homophones 1**.

P.S. This week, I'm giving out bonus 360 points for every day that you log on to practise your spellings using Spell Blast. :)

Extra Challenge

Here's a poem that says thank you to our amazing key workers.

[BBC Newsround - Dear Key Workers](#)

Why not see if you can write your own letter or poem to key workers?

You might write it for key workers in general or you might prefer to write it for a key worker that you know.

Handwriting Focus

Once again, we're going to have a handwriting focus to make sure you aren't forgetting all the progress you've made with me, Mrs Hammond and Mrs Sraughan!

This week, we're looking at one-armed robot letters.

The one-armed robot letters are:

r, b, h, k, m, n and **p**.

Here's a short video to remind you how to form one-armed robot letters correctly:

[BBC Bitesize - How to write one-armed robot letters](#)

The k in this video is slightly different to how we do it in school. See if you can teach your grown-up how we write them!

Don't forget, there are lots of ways of practising forming letters correctly, as well as with a pencil and paper. Here are a few (you'll need to check with a grown up first before trying some of these):

- Grab a paintbrush and a bucket of water and write them on the ground or wall.
- Draw the one-armed robot letters on your grown-up's back. Can they guess which letter you wrote?
- Make patterns by joining the same one-armed robot letters. Can you do a whole line of the letter **n** joined? What about **h**? Try them all and see which pattern you like best (we don't need to learn how to join **b, p** or **r** in Year 2, although you can try if you'd like to - you can find out how in the handwriting guide below).
- Melt some chocolate and spread a thin layer on a tray, then write the letters in the chocolate (make sure you've washed your hands really well first). Try not to lick your fingers until you've finished!
- Squirt a little shaving foam into a washing-up bowl and use your finger to write the letters in the foam (don't lick your fingers after this one).
- Make a one-armed robot and decorate it with one-armed robot letters.

For all of these activities, try to remember to form the letters correctly!

There's a downloadable handwriting guide if you need it. It has a reminder of the correct formation for letters as well as a breakdown of the joins taught in each year.