

Maths

Next up in Maths we are going to look at learning about money. (Parents, I am conscious that everyone may not have cubes at home to continue with measuring so we will pause on that topic for now and return in due course. For money, it would be very useful if you had a 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c and 20c coins to hand when completing these suggested activities.)

We will again go to www.folensonline.ie and click "Sign In" using msbambrick2019@gmail.com and the password is *seniorinfants* (all lower case and one word). Under "My Favourites" on the left hand side of the screen, you will find four fun, interactive games based on money that I have saved. (You may need to click "See all" to view the entire Favourites list as I have left up last week's work for you also so the list is becoming longer). I would recommend beginning with the game simply called "Money" that is lower down on the list. Here your child is asked to identify coins up to 20c.

You could follow up this game by completing this same activity with actual coins. As an extra challenge, you could put the coins into a feely bag, have them close their eyes and try figure out what the coin they take out is, based on shape and size. As a follow up, I would suggest that your child completes page 108 of our large *Planet Maths* book, which asks them to match the coin to the correct amount, and then write the correct amount underneath each coin on the second activity. I have uploaded page 108 of our large *Planet Maths* book to our *Seesaw Class* for your child to write the answers in on with the tools if you so wish, and I can then view their work at my side to correct it. However, accessing page 108 through the ebook on *Folens Online* (as we did last week) is also a valuable option and they can show you their answers by "air writing".

Next, playing the second game called "Money" on *Folens Online* will allow your child to put the coins in order of value. They could also then complete this activity with real coins. As follow up, your child could show, by colouring, how many coins are needed to go shopping to buy each item on page 109 (again, this can be accessed either on *Seesaw* or through the ebook on *Folens Online*). They can then draw the correct amount of coins in each piggy bank below. This could also be followed up by your child "paying" you the correct amount for various items that could be labelled with a price in your kitchen, for example.

Moving on, the activity entitled "Money Jars" on *Folens Online* asks your child to add and then compare coins up to 10c. Again, you could extend this by placing real coins in two separate groups in front of your child and asking them to count and compare. Page 110 (on *Seesaw* or the *Folens Online* ebook) follows this up by asking your child to count and then write how much is in each piggy bank. It also introduces the concept of "the most/the least" amount of money.

The activity entitled "Winnie's Money Jar" on *Folens Online* will ask your child to add the correct coins to the jar. Page 111 (on *Seesaw* or *Folens Online* ebook) asks your child to add up the amount spent by each child in the Sweet Shop, and then to compare who spent the most/least.

Finally, page 35 in our small Planet Maths book will reinforce this week's learning. I have uploaded this to *Seesaw* but as you have this book at home also, feel free to complete this activity in the book, on *Seesaw*, or both. This asks the children to identify 1c, 2c and 5c coins by using their correct colour and the adding up the total in each purse.

*Feel free to explore this *Folens Online* account as there is a range of other games/activities that would help your child revise number, addition, time, shape, counting on etc.

Literacy

Phonics: "ar" sound

Suggested steps to teach this new sound:

*Brainstorm with your child for words that they can hear the "ar" sound in (give them a starting hint if necessary) Perhaps write these for future practice?

*Then show them the following list and ask them to sound them out each word

star jar tar farm car carrot start

hard far calendar art artist party

*Youtube videos ([Mr Thorne does Phonics](#) and [Geraldine Giraffe](#) are both fun and interactive -type "ar phonics sound" into Youtube and they should both appear)

*Phonics book page 29 - write as many ar words as they can fit, and then draw/stick a picture (I have uploaded this page on *Seesaw* also so you have the option of completing it there if you wish for me to assess it remotely, and/or completing it in the book in your child's folder is also an option.)

*Please feel free to revise previously learned digraphs both on Youtube and by brainstorming words on a page (the phonics book should be a good reference).

*On *Folens Online* you will see "the ar portfolio" under My Favourites. If you click on here you will find activities based on -ar words. These provide sound practice, word practice and a rhyme to read/listen to.

Handwriting:

I have uploaded our handwriting pages from the big "Ready, Steady, Write" book on to *Seesaw* (with instructions) for your child to write on if they so wish, but accessing these on the *Folens Online* account under "My Favourites" is also an option (as we did before). On page 48 you will see capital K, on page 49 you will see capital A (with lower case revision of both letters also). Your child is very familiar with finger writing on the table top, on the palm of their non-dominant hand, on someone's back, etc. and you can

also have them make the letter in sand, playdough too. The arrows and numbers at the top of each page show correct formation and you could encourage correct pencil grip, sitting up straight etc. As follow up towards the end of the week, you can use their small handwriting book which you have at home. You can go over their capital letters on page 24 with K and A (also uploaded on to Seesaw for your child to write on if they so wish). Please feel free to circle what you think is their best one on each page (either on Seesaw or their handwriting book), and you can ask them to self-assess their work in the same way. If you use Seesaw I will be able to assess work from my side.

*Please feel free to revise as many capital letters that we have covered in this way using the big book online.

Reading:

I have left the same instructions below for accessing these readers as before Easter. If you feel that your child is ready to move on a level by all means do. On Seesaw there is also the facility to respond with the microphone icon and I would love to hear a sample of your child's reading. This activity is entitled "Reading for Teacher".

<https://connect.collins.co.uk/school/portal.aspx>

The above link will give you access to Collins Big Cat e-books which provide a graded reading scheme. Click on the Teacher portal and enter username: *parents@harpercollins.co.uk* and password: *Parents20!* to log in. Here you can choose readers by level based on the colours at the side. As a starting point I would begin at the pink A readers and choose one of both fiction and non-fiction (you can filter these on the left hand side by ticking the relevant box) to see how they find this level. If you feel it is too easy then feel free to move them up to pink B and try the same approach. You are aiming to find the level most similar to the readers I send home from school. It is important that their confidence is built up so a book that is too challenging can be quite disheartening. Added to this, we can really work on their reading fluency if they are reading familiar words. Remember, "*lots of easy reading makes reading easy*". By default the book will have a voiceover but you can have your child read it themselves by muting the sound on your device.

Tricky words:

We are now revising all 12 pink tricky words this week. I have emailed you a PDF (which was attached to the email with SeeSaw instructions) that provides revision activities such as *Go Fish*, *Bingo*, *Snap* etc, and these can be printed off to play with if this is possible for you. If not, seeing the resources on screen might perhaps encourage your child to create their own homemade version.

Again "*Epic Phonics*" on Youtube has great Tricky Word videos which can help them revise. The sequence/groups are not exactly in tandem with ours but still very relevant. I have also included two **dictation** sentences on SeeSaw, which will encourage your child to practise writing tricky words in context. If they enjoy my two examples, please feel

free to make up your own sentences that include some tricky words along with words that they will be able to attempt to spell, such as words we've practised during our phonics work e.g. *sister*, *star*, *sheep*, *goat*, *hair* etc. You could call out the sentence and they try their best to write it down. Encourage sounding out to figure out spellings.

Free Writing:

You could encourage your child to write "My News" based on their Easter weekend or a thank you letter to the Easter bunny (if appropriate). You also could do Free Writing towards the end of the week when they may have more to say about our new *Aistear* topic (see below). Some other suggestions include encouraging them to write the steps/instructions/method linked to an activity they have been engaging in recently. This could be baking, building, an arts and craft activity etc. You also could encourage them to write a letter to me telling what they have been enjoying. You could then perhaps take a photo of this and send it under the *Aistear* activity on SeeSaw.

Aistear (integrating Art/ Drama/ Geography/ History/ Science)

Twinkl has been made available for free to parents at this time. (You can go to www.twinkl.ie/offer , enter your own email address and create a password. Then enter the code IRLTWINKLHELPS).

In normal circumstances, we would be beginning "Travel" as our next *Aistear* topic. On Twinkl, the ebook/powerpoint called "Where in the World Shall we go?" would be a good starting point to begin a discussion of the planning and preparation that happens before a holiday. You could use an atlas/globe/Google maps to show your child the world and perhaps point out any countries that they may have heard of, that you have visited or where they have relations/friends living. Vocabulary such as travel agent, brochure, passport, destination, safari, journey, aeroplane, accommodation and adventure would be helpful to explain to your child and have them try use it when talking about the story. As we will work with the "Travel" topic for a number of weeks, I will highlight a number of activities each week that would provide a gradual approach to the topic. These will resemble the *Aistear* stations we would be engaging in in school, and I will add a couple of extra options each week for greater choice and flexibility.

Firstly, based on reading the above story, you could enter into a **role play** situation with your child with one person being the travel agent and the other a customer. Other family members could join in also to add more depth of the drama. Within the downloadable folder called "Where in The World Will We Go? Activity Pack" on Twinkl, there are props such as role play masks for the characters and a display banner to create your own travel agent's shop. There is also an "Irish passport template" on Twinkl which could be printed off and completed if possible. There is also a "Travel Agents Role Play Booking Form" which could be completed by a customer. Any atlases/

travel supplements from newspapers or magazines could also be used as props. The vocabulary I mentioned in the first paragraph could also be included here to generate discussion with your child.

Junk Art ideas for this topic include designing their own holiday destination brochure (making a book), constructing an aeroplane, making a suitcase to pack their holiday clothes, etc.

For the **construction**, your child could draw the blueprint/plans of their travel agent on an A4 page firstly and explain to you all the different areas in the shop (you could prompt them with ideas such as entrance, brochure, globe, posters, travel agent, travel agent's desk and computer, phone, exit etc). They could then build their plans using Lego or blocks etc.

The "*Where in the World Shall We Go?*" **story sequencing** cards will also help your child recap on the story, and then place the steps in the correct order, working on our storytelling skills in History.

The "*Where in the World Shall We Go?*" **wordsearch** on Twinkl will reinforce the new vocabulary they have been using in this topic.

The "*Where in the World Shall We Go?*" **Read and Write worksheet** will give them the opportunity to match and the write the new vocabulary.

On Twinkl, you will also see "*Where in the World Shall We Go?*" colouring pages which they might enjoy. I have added an Aistear Travel Agent's section on SeeSaw where you can send me pictures of any of your child's completed Aistear activities this week.

Gaeilge

Again on *Folens Online*, you will see *Abair Liom* under "My Favourites". If you click "Resource Type", followed by "Gníomhaíochtaí" (Activities), you will see two stories that your child can listen to - *Seán agus an Gas Pónaire* (Jack and The Beanstalk) on page 3 and *Hansel agus Gretel* on page 4.

P.E.

Joe Wick's (aka The Body Coach) is doing free daily P.E. classes on his Youtube channel <https://www.thebodycoach.com/blog/pe-with-joe-1254.html>. Go Noodle also offers plenty of ideas <https://app.gonoodle.com/login> as does <https://rtejr.rte.ie/10at10/>. Cosmic Kids YouTube Channel also provides great yoga videos to help with relaxation in these uncertain times <https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga>.

Religion

Your child's *Grow in Love* is at home and you have the option of completing pages 46 and 47 if you so wish. Veritas, the publisher, has made their resources free to parents. Go to the [Grow in Love site](#) and use these details:

email: trial@growinlove.ie

Password: *growinlove*

Click on the *Senior Infants* book, select *Theme 7 Holy Week & Easter, Lesson 3: Jesus is Alive!* There are short videos, reflections, prayers and activity sheets.

Music:

I have chosen a number of educational songs on YouTube that your child might be encouraged to sing along to. These are all on "*The Singing Walrus Channel*" on YouTube.

**Days of the Week Song* (Maths)

**Months of the Year Song* (Maths)

**3D shapes song* (Maths)

**Travel Song* (link to Aistear topic)

**Wash Your Hands song* (SPHE)

**Vegetable Song* (Food Dudes/ SPHE)

SPHE

In the current circumstances, it is important that we acknowledge any anxiety or stress that children are feeling due to the change from their normal routine. However hard it may be, it will also serve them well to remain positive and seek ways to build in gratitude to their days. On Twinkl, "*My Happiness Journal Junior Activity Book*" is an activity that asks your child to think of two things that made them happy each day (for 5 days, Monday to Friday). They could illustrate this happiness through pictures, and/or write a few words to explain also. You could have a reflective discussion around this idea together and see what exactly they are enjoying during these times. I have added an activity on SeeSaw called "*Happiness Journal*" where your child can send me a photo of some of this work or respond through the microphone function if they would like to tell me this themselves aloud.