

# Hopscotch

## You will need:

- Chalk or tape.
- The sounds and/or words that your child is working on.
- A stone or beanbag.

## Phonics skills:

This game allows your child the opportunity to practise sight recognition and pronunciation of the sounds or words that they are currently working on.

## Physical skills:

To develop balance and co-ordination through hopping and jumping.

To develop accurate underarm throwing skills.

## How to Play:

- Create a hopscotch grid using tape or chalk as shown below:



You can either use the chalk to write the sounds and/or words that your child is focussing on or the flashcards (see free resources).

### **Game 1:**

- Using an underarm throw, your child throws the stone or beanbag onto a square and travels to the top of the hopscotch grid using the hopscotch hop and jump moves. They have to jump over or hop around the word with the stone on. As they travel back down the hopscotch, they stop by their stone and call out the letter or word that it is on before picking it up and continuing back down the hopscotch to the start.

### **Game 2:**

- You allocate a sound/word for your child to throw their beanbag onto and they attempt to throw it accurately to land on the given sound or word before travelling appropriately to collect it. If they miss the grid completely they collect their beanbag and try again. If they throw it onto a different word, they travel to collect their beanbag but tell you the sound/word it has incorrectly landed on and try to point out where the correct sound or word is prior to having another attempt.

### **Game 3:**

- Use the flashcards and lay them face down on the hopscotch grid in order that your child doesn't see the sound/word until they have travelled to collect their throwing beanbag. They can then turn the card over and call out the sound or word that is on it.

### **Teaching tips:**

Using the flashcards allows the hopscotch grid to be used multiple times, for only sounds, only words or combinations of both and allows you to move their positions on the grid.

Always include some sounds/words that your child is already confident with so that they have lots of opportunities for success and praise.

To make it harder physically, if your child has good aim, make the throwing start point further back from the hopscotch grid.

***Safety first: If using the flashcards, to ensure your child doesn't slip on them, place them in the corner of each square and discuss the importance of not hopping or jumping on them.***