

# parents lesson

## ideas for home - when / how to do English time

### - Reading before bed

Ending the day with English really helps developing kids remember things. If you read to them before bed, you could choose 2 short books, one Japanese, one English. Let them decide which one you read first and second.

While reading the English book you can have them try to read easy words to identify letters.

While reading the Japanese book you can ask them "what is this in English?" and make it into an English activity too.

### - Make certain activities / daily activities English only

This is an easy way to do English Time - decide one activity in or outside the house that is English only, or try to use as much English as possible, eg.

Bathroom - "Toothbrush please" "Wash your hands" "Clean up" "Towel please"

On the way to Super epion - "Where are we going?" "Who will you see there?" "Will you have fun?"

Cartoons / entertainment - Find a kids show they can watch in English, often kids don't care what language a cartoon or show is in as long as it's visually entertaining.

### - When shopping

Shopping is a great time to practice English because it helps keeps kids occupied. Give them some motivation (some kind of reward) if they can find 5, 10, 20+ English words during the shopping trip. Even if they can't read the words, you can ask them to identify the letters, and it gets them looking for English in an ocean of Japanese like a scavenger hunt.

### - At the library

Have your kid try to find English words & books, ask them what they think the book is about from the pictures on the cover, or if they can identify any characters or items.

### - Eye spy

This is great game because you can make it as easy or difficult as you like..  
"eye spy something that starts with B. "Bus!" > C. "Car!" > D. "Dog!" etc.

### - Use Japanese for phonics practice

It's always best to use English words when practicing, but when learning ABC phonics it can help motivate them to use words they already use every day when practicing phonics.

eg. N > "n" > "neko!" > "what is neko in English?" > "cat!"

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## ideas for home - games / activities

### - Using chips / points rewards

Whenever you play a learning game, it's great to give the kids some motivation, something as simple as colored chips work really well in class, you can even make the rewards more fun by doing a catch game, or even a clap and catch game to make it more exciting.

eg. If they say a new word, or do well in the game, give them a chip or toy (anything that can work as a 'point'), then have them throw it up and try to catch it, if they catch it, give them a bonus chip. You can make this more exciting by having them clap once before catching it, and give them two bonus points.

### - Building ABC's

Building the ABC's with items is a fun way to get kids thinking about the shapes of different letters, you can use toothpicks, chopsticks or popsicle sticks, anything you have a bunch of that are long and straight.

You can start by doing simple letters, then move on to words, or their name.

### - Prepositions practice - on / in / under > behind / in front > next to / between

You can practice this with something as simple as a small toy and a cup / bowl.

"Where is the dinosaur?" > "In the bowl"

"Can you put the dinosaur ON the bowl?"

### - Karuta

Kids love this game, especially when combined with points / chips. You can make it more difficult or easy as needed. Make it easy by just saying the letter or phonic the word starts with. Make it harder by describing the word instead of saying it.

eg. "This word starts with C" > \*touch\* > "This one!" (cake)

eg. "This word is a kind of animal you see at the zoo" > \*touch\* > "Zebra!"

flashcard resource: <https://www.prekinders.com/category/word-cards/>

### - What's missing?

The what's missing game is a favorite of mine to make flash cards more fun, have 3 - 6 flash cards on the table, go through them a couple of times, then have the kid close / cover their eyes while you remove 1 of the cards. Let them open their eyes again and ask "What's missing?".

It's a great way to develop memory as well as their English.

### - Other games..

Slow reveal, words only, quick show, STOP!, matching pictures with words.

Guess Who?, Prepositions game