

OUTDOOR PHONICS MATS ACTIVITY CARDS

Our Phonics Mats lend themselves beautifully to outdoor learning. Have Phonics Mats freely available for continuous provision. Consolidate phonics knowledge and motivate children to play with sounds in different ways. Here are a few ideas that can be printed off, laminated and used with children.

Other ideas could include:

- Playdough Phonics
- Water and Sound Tray Treasure Hunts
- Spin and Rhyme Sound Game
- Letter Sound Race



**If you have a brilliant idea
that you would like to
share with us, please get
in touch.**



STEPPING-STONES

The quick stepping-stones hop is a great way to learn sounds.

Create different pathways with the Phonics Mats to cross your pretend river.

Your aim is to jump from one mat to another calling out the sounds as you land on them. Be careful not to wobble or you might have to go back to the start and begin again!

Variation: As you land on each mat call out words with that sound in for a partner to write down on a whiteboard. How many words can you collect? Time yourself and try to beat your time on another turn.



SOUND HUNT

Preparation: You need a list of sounds you are working on from your teacher. Read *We're Going On A Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen.

Collect your list of sounds from your teacher. Look at your list and begin your hunt in Bear Hunt style.

We're going on a
sound hunt,
We're going to make
lots of words.
What a perfect day!
We're great at
spelling.

Uh oh! What's that?
An 'ai' Let's find the
'ai'.
Where is it? (Go on
your hunt to find
Phonics Mat)
It's here! Now let's
spell with it.

When you have found the correct Phonics Mat write as many real and nonsense words as you can with that sound. You could place your Phonics Mat in a tub or basket and collect items with that sound in too.



I CAN SPELL A RAINBOW

Set up the Phonics Mats in a rainbow shape with a bucket for the gold at the end of the rainbow.

Select letters and sounds from the rainbow and make words with the sound.

Write words in rainbow colours on paper to put in your treasure pot of gold at the end of the rainbow.



Red and yellow and pink and green,
Purple and orange and blue.
I can spell a rainbow, Spell a rainbow,
Spell a rainbow with you.
Looking with your eyes, Listen with your ears,
And spell everything you see.
I can spell a rainbow, Spell a rainbow,
Spell a rainbow with me.

You will need: Outdoor Phonics Mats, a special bucket for collecting your words, strips of paper/card for writing the words, coloured pencils/pens and a clip board.

SOUND SKITTLES

Set up skittles with Phonics Sound Mats attached to them.

Score points for the number of skittles you can knock down.

Extra points for knowing the sounds.

Bonus points for each real or nonsense words you can make using that sound.



Need: Empty bottles to make skittles if you don't have any skittles already. Outdoor Phonics mats to attach to your skittles. Balls suitable for knocking down the skittles.

ISLAND HOPPING

Spread the Phonics Mats around the space, making sure you can see them all.

Select a mat for your first island by saying the phoneme and then running quickly to that mat and hopping on that island. How many islands can you visit?

Or play with larger islands by joining mats together to make words. Every time you land onto an island say the sounds and blend to read the words. Collect the words you have read from the islands visited.



There are lots of variations to this game. If you have a brilliant idea that you would like to share with us, please get in touch.

PHONICS TREASURE HUNT

Use mini note-books, clip boards and paper, white boards, or recordable sound buttons.

Hide the Phonics Mats around your area and then go on a hunt to find them.

Record the sounds you have found. When the time is up see how many real and nonsense words as you can spell with the sounds collected.

The more words you make, the more treasure you have found!



CRAZY GOLF PHONICS

Use the Phonics Mats to set up a crazy golf game.

Play the course and say the sounds as you reach each target.

Other variations of this game could include a Queen of Hearts Croquet game or a Target Practise game.



PHONICS HOPSCOTCH

Hopscotch is a popular playground game. It is a game that can be played with several players or alone.

Set the Phonics Mats up like hopscotch.

Make up games to play. For example, if you land on a 'HOP' mat you say the sound. If you land on a 'SCOTCH' you blend the sounds to make words.



JUMPING JACKS

Spread the Phonics Mats in your chosen area.

Run around the mats and create pathways.

When the caller shouts out “JUMPING JACKS” hop onto a mat and at the same time as doing jumping jacks say your sound. The caller chooses their favourite Jumping Jack sound, and a new caller begins the game again.



There are lots of variations to this game. If you have a brilliant idea that you would like to share with us, please get in touch.



SCAVENGER HUNT PHONICS

You will need a clip board, paper and a pencil to go beside each Phonics Mats.

Spread the Phonics Mats out around your chosen area.

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- Clip board, paper and pencil for recording.
- Collect items to go on mat containing that sound.

Choose a Phonics Mat and go on a scavenger hunt to find items in nature with that sound in. Write, draw or collect items containing that sound. Which Phonics Mat collected the most items?



PHONICS DANCE MAT

Set up the Phonics Mats like a dance mat. Make up your own dance moves to music on your dance mat.

Write down the sounds as a sequence for your steps.

Can a friend follow your sequence and copy your dance?

You could also play Musical Statues with the Phonics Mats. When the music stops you hop onto a Phonics Mat and stand as still as a statue. When the game master walks passed your statue, you say the sound of your mat.



You will need:

Outdoor Phonics Mats. (Phonics Mats are non-slip so safe to jump on and have lots of fun).
Music to play game.

PHONICS TWISTER

Set up the Phonics Mats like a game of Twister.

Take turns to follow instructions, e.g. put your right foot on 'ai', your left hand on 'ch'.

How many sounds can you cover without getting into a twist?

