

TALK to me outside



THEME:
ENVIRONMENTAL
PRINT

Finding environmental print while you're out on a walk with the children is all part of a child's journey to becoming a better reader and communicator. Pointing out the words you see gives your walk a focus and will help the children hear lots of new words.

Children need to be good talkers to become good readers. Good readers then become even better talkers!

What to do

- When you're out and about, you might stop at the bus stop and talk about the timetable. Try saying something like: "I wonder what time the bus is coming. Look, it says the next one is at 10 o'clock."
- While on a walk, point out road signs or numbers on the doors.
- In the shops or at the library, point out signs that show you where to go. You could say things like "this sign tells us where the fruit is" or "the picture books are this way".
- Look out for adverts and posters when you're out and about together. Comment on what they are telling you e.g. "oh look, Costa has a new drink."
- Point out shop logos to the children - these could be on the shop signs, on vehicles driving past or on shopping bags.

BBC: I hear thunder

Click [here](#) to listen to the tune of the song, then sing it while you walk!

You could change the words or make up your own!

Are you looking? Are you looking?

For the signs? For the signs?

Words are all around us, words are all around us

Look and find, look and find.

Make your own book!

Use a scrap book and fill it with environmental print that you and the children find. They could bring in examples from home or you could include photos of your time out and about. Include receipts, tickets, leaflets, food packaging, wrappers and labels in the book to show that words are all around us!



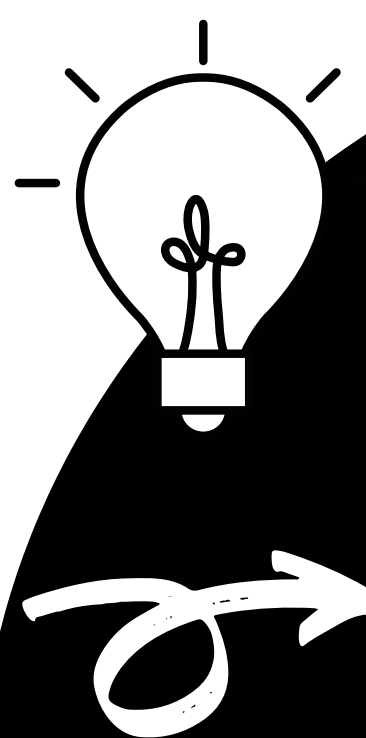
Step up and make it more challenging

Word jigsaw:

- Make a 'word jigsaw' - cut up a familiar logo (or a picture of one you found while on your walk) and work with the children to put it back together again.
- Relate the jigsaw back to the child's experiences - "remember when we saw this sign on our walk?"
- Expand on the words the children say by adding a word or an idea e.g. child says "Asda", you say "Yes, we go to buy food at Asda".
- You could use all sorts for this activity - empty cereal boxes are great for creating your own jigsaws.
- This will all help to develop children's concentration and co-ordination skills.

Find the print:

- Play a game where the children have to find some environmental print around the house or outside e.g. find 5 things with writing on them. This will support independence and the children will love being competitive!



Making their own book will be a positive experience for the children. Recognising words and letters will help them to start seeing themselves as a reader. Making time to talk together about the book they've made will boost their speech, language and communication skills.

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You could print this sheet and take it with you on your walk.

We've left some spaces blank for you to fill with your own print finds!

Look and find...

Signs



e.g. road/street signs

Shop logos



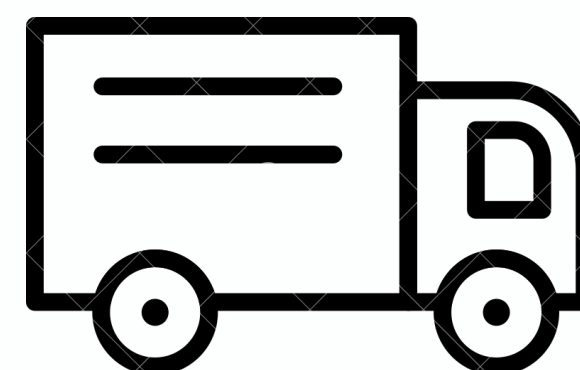
e.g. Asda, Sainsburys

Food packaging



e.g. cereal boxes

Travel



e.g. timetables, tickets, receipts

Draw or write down anything else you find!