

Another way that Puffin are striving to 'narrow the gap' is by using the Jake and Tizzy books as part of the Early Talk Boost project (accessed through Brighton and Hove Inclusion Support Service). Children then take these books home at the end of the week.



The program which really encourages parents to spend time reading with their children, appears to be having a lasting impact. Local schools have fed back that the children they receive from Puffin make good progress, and particularly enjoy books!

What's next?

The setting plans to develop ideas for using books without words as prompts for storytelling and vocabulary building and share these ideas with families.

Puffin Community Nursery is situated in the heart of Brighton, providing affordable childcare for children ages 2-5 years. For more information, contact Tracy on -
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Narrowing the Word Gap at Puffin Community Nursery



Leading the way with Library links!

Puffin Community Nursery have been busy building library links whilst also adopting the 'Book of the Week' approach, putting stories at the forefront of their planning.

The setting have created a successful family lending library of books, bought at low costs by the manager, and with book bags provided to the pre-school children.

In addition to this, Puffin nursery goes on regular trips to the Jubilee library as well as having strong links with the Early Childhood Project. The ECP toy library is a unique service that gives early years providers access to a wide selection of carefully chosen resources that reflect family life and diversity and uphold an anti-bias approach to play, care and education.

The toy library at ECP



These links have provided enrichment for Puffin's new approach to planning. In the wake of the Word gap conference, the staff held a focused INSET day on rhymes and books which kick-started their 'book of the week' approach. Staff began to choose and plan focus stories each week (see right), to read and explore fully with particular attention paid to extending children's knowledge of the text and the key vocabulary.



The children's area of the Jubilee library

For more information, see the ECP website <https://ecpuk.org/what-we-do/>. and <https://toylibrarybrightonandhove.org/> The Jubilee and other city libraries run regular early years activities such as Baby Boogie, Storytime and creative play sessions - see Council website for more details.

Top tip: big books are really useful for exploring key stories



Puffin have also introduced a card game at breakfast time to stimulate talk and support children's understanding of 'action words' (see left).