

## NEW IDEA - Parent book club!



The pre-school have reached out to parents in a number of ways: they have a lending library and book club which encourages parents to borrow books and feedback their thoughts. They have a parent info board inviting families to visit the pre-school and read a story, plus details of literacy activities happening in the setting. There are also top reading tips and interesting articles.

Some parents have admitted to not reading stories at home, and the setting have supported them through providing appropriate books such as dual language texts.

Southern Cross Pre-School is a community preschool in Portslade. For more information, see contact details on website -

<https://www.southerncrosspreschool.co.uk/>

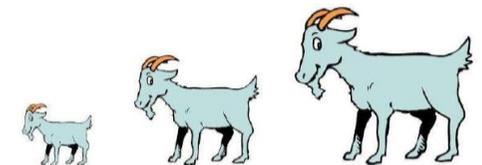
## Narrowing the Word Gap at Southern Cross



## Books at the heart of what we do!

At Southern Cross Pre-School, they have thought carefully about how to enhance story times and to promote deeper learning in literacy. This has led them to make far-reaching changes to their practice.

Have a look at their ideas in the top tips section overleaf and be inspired!



## OUR TOP TIPS

- Children love hearing the stories again and again. Make books a central theme that are embedded in everything you do. When stories become highly familiar they can be retold easily and children will really enjoy retelling using props/picture cues.
- Create story sacks/resources for key books to support children to re-tell stories. Pictured below is our story board for Dear Zoo in which children can peel off the containers to reveal the animals beneath!



- Think about the way you organise story times - e.g. at times involving all staff and at other times dividing up into smaller groups to suit children's ages and stages.
- Linking books to areas e.g. train role play + books about trains, pirate role play outdoors + books about pirates. Children use these books in their play and they act as starting points for conversations.

- Providing story retelling opportunities in small world play
- Create books so that children can make their own stories perhaps using pictures to stick in.
- Photo books in the book area documenting things children have done in the nursery

