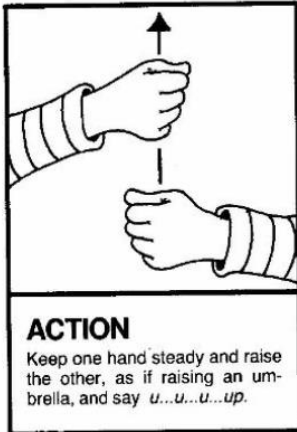


# Phonics!

Week 7- Our focus sound this week is...

U u

short u



Encourage the children to experience the written form – both capital and lower case. Can they notice the similarities and differences between the lower and upper case forms of this week's focus sound? Can they use their finger/a brush/a stick etc. to trace it? Could they use play dough, a pliable toy, spaghetti etc. to make it? Can they make a similar mark or write the letter in materials like sand, rice, soil etc. Can they find it when given a choice of letters (written/magnetic etc.)

Model saying the sound correctly whilst mimicking opening an umbrella. Sing the song below to the tune of 'Skip to my Lou'.

**"U, u, up go umbrellas,**

**U, u, up go umbrellas,**

**U, u, up go umbrellas,**

**When it starts to rain.'**

**Tip:** If you have a real umbrella that your child could practise opening whilst they sing – that would be great.

### Read and roll games (separate documents)

There are 3 variations of the read and roll game that all vary in difficulty. These are:

- Read and roll – letter sounds
- Read and roll – words
- Read and roll – phrases

The aim of the game is to roll a dice and read the corresponding letter sound/ word/ phrase. There is a blank template with each game to give you the opportunity to make your own (for example- if you have read each letter sound but your child is not quite ready for reading words or phrases, you can play again with new letter sounds). You could also try singing the phonics songs for each letter sound.

If you don't have a dice in your house, there is a template to make a dice at home! ☺

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### Sensory sound of the week activity



Experiment with various materials in water play to design and create umbrellas for small toys such as animals, dinosaurs, cars etc. You could try using leaves, sponges, sticks, straws, cake cases, cardboard, stones or plastic plates and cups.

If you have any letter resources such as foam or magnetic letters – add the letter 'U' into the water tray. Sing the phonics song for the letter 'U'.

You could also try using a watering can (or a hose pipe!) and a real umbrella to bring the song to life. This is a really fun activity for the warm weather! Remember to emphasise that 'u' is for 'umbrella'!



You could also have fun writing letters or shapes on the ground outside with water and a paintbrush, sponge, watering can or a squeezezy bottle. Washed out ketchup style ones from your recycling work well - as they can be quite hard to squeeze, they are good for building hand strength. Can they write the letter 'u' or even have a go at writing some words that start with a 'u'. How big can they write the letters and how small? We would love to see some pictures of your water painting! ☺

