Phonics

(with examples based on NEL K2 English Language Big Book – The Satay Man)

Overview:

Phonics is taught to teach reading and writing of the English Language. It aims to develop the children's ability to hear, identify and manipulate phonemes (unit of sound). In turn, this will help in their ability to decode new words by sounding them out. In phonics activity, the letters and words are shown to the children.

Here's an example of a phonics activity idea based on the NEL K2 English Language Big Book.

Learning Goal	Identifying the letters that make the sounds /sw/ and /sp/.

- Create picture cards for words beginning with *sw*, e.g., *swim*, *sweets*, *swan*, *swing*, and *sp*, e.g., *spoon*, *space*, *spin*, *spade*. Create corresponding word cards to these picture cards.
- Recap the letter sounds and names taught in previous lessons.
- Divide the board into 2 columns. Teach the first beginning sound /sw/ by showing the picture cards that begin with /sw/ and get the children to name them. Ask them for the beginning sound. Place the cards in one of the columns.
- Write the letters 'sw' at the top of this column and say the letters 'sw' make the sound /sw/. Get the children to skywrite and say the letter names and sound.
- Go through the word cards for 'sw' words. Point at the letters 'sw' in the word cards and emphasize that the sound /sw/ is represented by the letters 'sw'. E.g., say, "sw, /sw/, swim".
- Get children to match the word cards of words beginning with /sw/ to their corresponding picture cards on the board.
- Teach the second beginning sound /sp/ by repeating the above steps.
- Review all the words learnt for /sw/ and /sp/ by going through all the words on the board.