



# Top tips for... Supporting your tutee during school closures



We asked some of the EAL teachers at our partner schools how best Jacari tutors can support their tutees during school closures, and below you'll find some of the tips they gave us:

## What are children missing out on during school closures?

- Individual feedback
- Collaborative activities
- Fun learning activities
- 1:1 reading

For example, get your tutee to show you their writing, give them feedback - eg **2 things they did well and 2 things to improve** - and then ask them to rewrite and improve it.

For example, rather than simply 'teaching' and the child doing the work individually, **try to do activities together**, like writing a story where you take it in turns to write a sentence. Using online whiteboards is helpful for this. Look online for 'Information Gap' tasks too.

**Games and competitive things are always good** - even simple things like using a timer and seeing if they can beat the clock, can make a task a bit more fun.

**Helping with reading online is hard!** So sharing a screen of something to read and giving questions or tasks related to it is probably the best we can do right now. For children who are at earlier stages of literacy, **use flashcards held up to the screen** (e.g. for high frequency words / key words for the work they're doing). And you can also read to them - showing them the text - and then talk about the text; this still helps their comprehension and vocabulary.

Remember, the kids may be tired of being online all day. And a lot depends on things you can't control - like if there's a good connection, or if there are lots of distractions at home. Don't worry if things don't go to plan. Online tutoring is all about being flexible. And remember that there is value in just chatting to your pupil!