



Year 1-2 Curriculum Connections

FOR KS1 TEACHERS

Guide 9 of 10

Linking Draw in the Air activities to Key Stage 1 objectives.

As children move into Year 1 and 2, Draw in the Air shifts from a primary learning tool to a powerful consolidation and engagement tool. It is perfect for warm-ups, interventions, and homework extension.

National Curriculum KS1 Links

English: Handwriting

- Word Search: sight word recognition and scanning (Year 1 phonics decodable words).
- Letter Tracing: "Sit correctly at a table, holding a pencil comfortably and correctly" as a pre-cursor skill.
- Gesture Spelling: "Name the letters of the alphabet in order" (KS1 Spoken Language).

Mathematics

- Balloon Math: "Read, write and interpret mathematical statements involving +, -, and =" (Year 1).
- Number Tracing: "Count to and across 100, forwards and backwards" with number formation fluency.
- Sort & Place: "Describe position, direction and movement" for early geometry and spatial language.

Computing

- All activities: "Use technology purposefully to create, organise, store, manipulate and retrieve content".
- Bubble Pop / Free Paint: "Recognise common uses of information technology beyond school".
- Teacher note: explain how hand tracking AI works. It is an excellent stimulus for computational thinking discussion.

Physical Education

- All activities: "Master basic movements including... control and co-ordination" (KS1 PE).
- Bubble Pop: develops visual-motor integration, the same skills as catching and striking in PE.
- Letter Tracing: gross motor to fine motor sequencing, mirroring the body-to-pencil transition in the PE curriculum.

CROSS-PHASE TIP

Year 1-2 children love being the "expert" who teaches Reception children how to use Draw in the Air. A buddy system between classes builds confidence in older children while giving younger ones aspirational peer models.

Small Group Intervention Ideas

Phonics Catch-Up

LETTER TRACING + GESTURE SPELLING

For children who haven't met expected phonics standards. Pair air tracing with verbal phoneme articulation.

Handwriting Intervention

LETTER TRACING (SPECIFIC LETTERS)

Target the 5-6 letters the child consistently reverses or malforms. Air trace before pencil practice in every session.

Maths Fluency

BALLOON MATH + NUMBER TRACING

For children working below the expected level on addition to 20. Use as a 5-minute warm-up to each maths intervention session.