



Early Years Notes for Parents

Summer 2020

We are so proud of you all during this difficult time. Stay home, stay safe and we look forward to being back together when it is safe.

This term our topic will be 'All Creatures Great and Small'. We will be linking our learning areas to this and together exploring themes ranging from observing our tadpoles to learning about the mini-beasts and birds we see in our gardens and pets we have at home.

Our learning journey – We have some ideas to begin the term but to engage children fully in their learning we need to be flexible and allow them to have control over the directions in which their learning journey takes them. It will be changed to meet individual children's needs, interests and threads of learning.

Literacy - Together we will be looking at wonderful picture books like 'Journey' by Aaron Becker, and traditional tales such as 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. Also, favourites such as 'The Hungry Caterpillar', 'Rumble in the Jungle' and 'Dear Zoo'. We will ask you to perform your favourite rhymes and poems, act out stories using props farm/jungle/mini-beast small world.

Reading Books - I know we have mentioned it a lot this year, but the importance of reading every day with your child, even if it is only a couple of pages, is vital. Try to take advantage of every opportunity to demonstrate how and why adults read. Share writing the shopping list, thank you letters and invitations

Writing - In their writing, the children will be encouraged not only to sound words out using their phonic knowledge, but also to remember a finger space after each word and a full stop after the last word in the sentence.

Phonics - This will be an important part of our learning and each week spellings will be focussed around the new sounds we are learning.

Mark making - Practise making the letters that children have been learning in 'Letters and Sounds'. Think fun; do not just use pencil and paper, make up a dance by making movements in the air, paint them with finger paints, ice them on to a cake or even use the salt trays that we have suggested on the daily plan.

Maths We want our children to develop a strong sense of numbers to 10. They may be able to recite the number names to 20 and beyond but a sense of what those numbers mean develops gradually with repeated experiences in different contexts.

Understanding of the World



We will be looking at the lifecycles of butterflies and frogs. We will have some caterpillars and watch them as they develop into butterflies and then release them into our wild flower garden. We will look at similarities and differences between animals and learn about their habitats.

Expressive Art and Design - This is a tricky area because I am not sure what resources you have at home but we will do our best! Painting mini-beasts, farm animals, pets, jungle animals; Creating animals using different mediums e.g. pastel, collage; making habitats for the animals using junk modelling, lolly stick puppets Looking at Matisse's style for the snail, mixing different colours to create new colours.

Physical Development - Follow Joe Wicks PE on YouTube.

How many times can you throw and catch a ball? Can you do it with a big and a small ball?

Making playdough and manipulating it with your fingers to develop your finger strength – continue watching Shonette Bassett-Wood on YouTube.

Practice forming your letters and don't forget your whooshes!



We are missing you all and look forward to being back together when it is safe. Please keep sending us your learning - we love seeing all that you are doing ☺

Kind Regards,

The Early Years Team

Here is an overview of the maths we will be covering this term. Due to the nature of early years there will be cross over between areas each week. We will aim to clearly identify the maths covered by each activity as the term progresses.

Reception - Notes and guidance



Summer Progression

Geometry

Exploring patterns

- Making simple patterns
- Exploring more complex patterns

Addition and Subtraction

Change

- Adding more
- Taking away

Number and Place Value

Numbers to 20

- Counting to 20

Multiplication and Division

Numerical patterns

- Doubling
- Halving and sharing
- Odds and evens

Measurement

Measure

- Length, height and distance
- Weight
- Capacity