

Nursery activities - 23rd June 2020

English

- Children should begin to realise that information can be relayed in the form of print. Read story books together, bringing children's attention to the difference between words, numbers and pictures. They should also begin to know that information can be retrieved from computers. Task: What can you find out about space? Look at books or online e.g. <https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/teacher-category/space/>
- Children should have an understanding that they can use lines to enclose a space, and then begin to use these shapes to represent objects. Task: Draw what you think an alien might look like. How is it different to you? Is it similar in any way? E.g. does it have legs/arms/eyes etc?
- Children should be able to make simple representations of people, events and objects. Task: Can you make a collage picture of somewhere you're looking forward to going when you're next allowed to e.g. the beach or the playground? What different materials could you use to make different textures?
- Children might be beginning to use anticlockwise movement and retrace vertical lines or forming recognisable letters Task: Place some flour (if you can get hold of any!) or sand in a shallow tray. Make patterns in the flour, draw long lines, zig-zigs, circles, faces, practise forming letters, numbers and your name.
- Children should begin to recognise familiar words and signs such as own name and advertising logos. Task: Talk about the logos and signs in a variety of contexts and ask questions, such as do you children recognise any of them? What do they mean? How do they know what the logo says? Your child might be able to recognise shop or restaurant signs when you're out having a walk (e.g. the Waitrose sign, the McDonalds sign!) or have a look in newspapers or catalogues to see if you can find some familiar logos.

Maths

- Children should begin to notice simple shapes and patterns. Task: Read or watch the story 'Pirate Love Underpants'. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vd8_Y1bEzA8 Have a look at the different patterns on the pants. Can you describe the patterns? Have a look at your own pants (or socks) can you describe the patterns?
- Children should have an understanding of positional language and use it in the appropriate context (e.g. on top, under, next to). Hide some coins/gems around the house. Make a pirate treasure map. Use positional language to describe to your grown up where the treasure is hidden. Now ask your grown up to hide some treasure, can you follow their clues to find the treasure?
- Children should begin to use the language of size. Task: Find several different size bags/suitcases. Can you sort them into size order from smallest to the biggest?
- Children should begin to show an interest in shape and space by playing with shapes or making arrangements with objects. Task: Make 2D shapes using straws, cotton buds, sticks. Challenge your child to create a 2D shape of your choosing. Repeat for several shapes, e.g. triangle, square, rectangle, rhombus, pentagon, hexagon, heptagon, and octagon.
- Encourage your child to use everyday language related to time. With your grown up, make a list of all the things you are going to do tomorrow. Cross them off as you do them. Talk about the time you do these things.

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Phonics

- **Instrumental Sounds:** Make your own musical instruments, using cardboard rolls, tins, dried peas, beans, stones. Shake these loudly, softly, as you are marching, skipping or stomping. Play 'Guess what's inside the instrument'. Sing known songs loudly and then softly, stretch words in known songs and add new words or sounds. Listen to a range of music with your child, from rap to classical. Encourage your child to move in response to the variety of musical styles and mood!
- **Alliteration:** Alliteration is a lot of fun to play around with. Your child's name can be a good place to start, for example, say: 'Gurpeet get the giggles', 'Carl caught a cat', 'Jolly Jessie jumped'. Encourage other family members to have a go, for example: 'Mummy munches muffins', 'Daddy is doing the dishes'. Emphasise alliteration in songs and stories, for example: 'Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.' Play around with familiar song, such as 'Old MacDonald had some sheep, shoes, shorts, with a sh sh here and and sh sh there', to emphasise alliteration. Identify the odd one out, for example, cat, cup, boy, car. Make up little nonsense stories together using lots of alliteration. Collect items that start with the same sound from the park, the garden and around the house. When shopping, think about items you are buying and say: 'a tall tin of tomatoes', 'a lovely little lemon'. Encourage your child to do the same.
- **Body Percussion:** Learn some action rhymes, such as 'Wind the bobbin up'. Play some commercially produced songs on YouTube or on the BBC Nursery Rhyme website. Clap along with familiar rhymes and learn new ones. Listen to the sounds your feet make when walking, running or skipping: slowly, softly, fast, stomping hard, in flipflops, boots, high heels. Try different types of clapping: clap your hands softly, quickly and make a pattern for your child to follow. Do the same clapping your thighs or stamping your feet. Tap your fingers. Click your tongue. Invent a special family clap routine for when someone does something really well.
- **Rhythm and Rhyme:** Get into the rhythm of language: bounce your child on your knee to the rhythm of a song or nursery rhyme; march or clap to a chant or poem. Help your child move to the rhythm of a song or rhyme. Read or say poems, songs, nursery songs and rhyming stories as often as you can. Try to use gestures, tap regular beats and pause to emphasise the rhythm of the piece. Add percussion to mark the beats using your hands, feet or instruments. Try out some rhythmic chanting such as 'two, four, six, eight, hurry up or we'll be late' or 'bip bop boo, who are you?'
- **Oral Blending and Segmenting:** This is all oral (spoken). Your child will not be expected to match the letter to the sound at this stage. The emphasis is on helping children to hear the separate sounds in words and to create spoken sounds. Oral blending and segmenting is a later skill that will be important when the time comes for your child to read and write. Being able to hear the separate sounds within a word and then blend them together to understand that word is really important. Blending is a vital skill for reading. The separate sounds (phonemes) of the word are spoken aloud, in order, all through the word and are then merged together into the whole word. This merging is called blending. For example, the adult would say c-a-t = cat. Segmenting is a vital skill for spelling. The whole word is spoken aloud, then broken up into its separate sounds (phonemes) in order, all through the word. For example, the adult would say cat = c-a-t.

Creative/Understanding of the World

- Read "Whatever Next" or listen to "5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer." Set up a picnic at home to share with your family. Make sure you share out the treats fairly! Act out getting ready to go into space! Put your spacesuit and space boots on, and your space helmet. Climb into your space rockets, don't forget to close the door and put your seatbelt down. Now count down from 10 and blast off into space!
- Look at pictures or talk about things that may be in space. Use things around your home, instruments, pots and pans, toys etc, to create a futuristic and noisy space scene. You could make your own instruments by, for example, putting rice in a bottle, stretching elastic bands over a box or threading onto a

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string (milk bottle tops or foil cake cases, Cheerios or pasta). You could record your music and play it back. What was the best part? Could we make this better?

- Sing the song "5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer". Can you join in the song and count down from 5? <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-five-little-men-in-a-flying-saucer/z6qgscw>
- Use half a paper plate, or draw a semi-circle on a piece of paper. Cut out strips and join them to the straight edged side to make a jellyfish. How many legs has your jellyfish got?
- Watch and join in with the clip of Peppa Pig singing her aeroplane song then discuss how aeroplanes fly high in the sky.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=faVrsxmYH9k> See if you can make high and low noises with your mouth. If you have a toy aeroplane (if not use your hand) see if your child can copy as you move the aeroplane up and down. As the plane goes up ask them to make high noises, as the plane goes down ask them to make low sounds.

Skill of the Week

- Children should show an increasing control over an object by pushing, patting, throwing, catching or kicking it. Play 'Space Invaders'. Make lines of 'aliens' you could use soft toys or make aliens out of tubes of cardboard. Using a soft ball or rolled up socks, push the ball across the floor to knock back the invading aliens. Count how many times it takes to knock back the aliens. Alternatively, you could pretend that the objects are an asteroid belt the spaceship needs to fly through.

Challenge of the Week

- Children should be able to handle equipment and tools effectively and manage their personal needs successfully. Learn to correctly use your cutlery and cut up your own food. It might be a good idea to try this with playdough first and then soft food... this will really help in Reception!

Links

Online activities and links:

Nrich maths activities: <https://nrich.maths.org/13371>

Counting games: <https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/3-5-years/counting>

Maths games: <http://www.crickweb.co.uk/Early-Years.html>

Phase 1 Phonics games: <https://new.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/1>

Phase 1 phonics games: <http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/phase-1-games.html>

Fine motor activities: <https://www.teachearlyyears.com/learning-and-development/view/developing-fine-motor-skills>

Playdough recipe: <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/playdough-recipe>

A parent's guide to phonics: <https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/reading/learn-to-read-phonics/>

Home learning ideas: <https://abcdoes.com/home-learning/>

Phase 1 phoics games: <https://www.phonicsbloom.com/uk/game/list/phonics-games-phase-1>

Number blocks programme: <https://www.ncetm.org.uk/resources/52060>

Gruffalo activities: <https://www.forestryengland.uk/resource/gruffalo-spotters-activity-sheets>

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Nursery rhymes & Songs: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-songs-index/zhwdgwx>

Visit the Louvre! <https://www.louvre.fr/en/visites-en-ligne#tabs>

The British Museum in London: <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/the-british-museum>

English/phonics games (focus on rhyming and blending/segmenting) <https://uk.ixl.com/ela/reception>

Guidance on starting school in September: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/collections/starting-primary-school/1>

Teaching phonics - http://www.phonicsinternational.com/guidance_book.pdf

Singing/rhymes - <http://www.songsforteaching.com/nurseryrhymes.htm>

Minibeast yoga: <https://www.kidsyogastories.com/insect-bug-yoga/>

Hungry Caterpillar resources: https://www.pacey.org.uk/Pacey/media/Website-files/PACEY%20general/VHC-PACEYnew_FINAL.pdf

Reminders/notices

- Purple Mash has now been updated. There are new activities to do in the "2Do" section. Once you have done an activity, you can save it. After you have saved it, there is another icon which you can press, which enables you to share it to the Nursery noticeboard. Once you have saved and shared it to the noticeboard, I will be able to see it and then comment on it.
- If you scroll through the previous weeks of home learning, there is a document which has been uploaded which gives guidance on writing and pencil grip in the Early Years.
- In the Coronavirus section of the school website, Grant regularly uploads letters which have been sent out to parents. This will give you up to date information on the school's re-opening status.
- Helen will be phoning parents every two weeks from the school phone number, so please expect a phone call from the school's phone number.

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Dear Nursery Children,

I hope you have all been well! It has been so sunny this week and it looks like the weather is going to get hotter!

Please remember to wear a hat and wear lots of sun cream to keep your skin safe.

This week, I have finished making my bird's nest and I have made a few now. I really like the blue colour on them! I'm also still continuing to help my mum do some gardening in the garden. I really enjoy admiring all her plants. This week, she has been planting poppy seeds. I really like the yellow Californian poppies that she already has growing.

Now that social distancing rules have been relaxed, I met up with some friends and their four-year-old son over the weekend. We visited Victoria Park in Hackney. We flew a kite and had an ice cream. It was lots of fun and it was nice to go to a park that I've never been to before! Luckily, we brought two kites because of our kites got stuck in a tree!

Take care, Helen x

