

Learning through Play and Learning at Home

Home learning suggestions for the areas of the Early Years Curriculum.

These suggestions are optional, but we love finding out what you get up to at home! Don't forget to keep recording stories shared in monkey reading diaries and write 'Wow Moments' for us to add to your child's learning journey. Any photos or pieces of work can be added to your child's learning journey too.

Have fun!
Miss Corbett



showing a passion for learning

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Play a game that encourages turn taking and sharing.
- Have a play date with friends (or toys!) to encourage friendly chatting.
- Use mirrors to play around with facial expressions and talk about what they may represent.
- We give and receive compliments to friends, can you give a compliment?
- Share stories and encourage children to put themselves in the characters' shoes.

Communication and Language

- Look at photos and videos to remind children of past experiences and talk about them.
- Create a 'story sack' for a favourite story, collecting or making props, puppets and objects to re-enact the story.
- Use old or pretend phones to hold a conversation.
- Explain and explore new vocabulary e.g. technical words for things you experience or textures as you play.
- Model speaking in full sentences and repeat a sentence back to a child if it was grammatically incorrect e.g. 'my go to the toilet' - 'I am going to the toilet'.
- Play listening games e.g. what animals, instruments etc. can you hear?
- Play speaking and memory games e.g. 'I packed my bag and in it I put...', Simon Says.

Physical Development

- Encourage and praise children for independent dressing and toileting.
- Dress dollies, teddies and other toys to practise.
- Use chalk to draw a racing track on the ground and ride around it on a bike or scooter.
- Throw bean bags or balls etc. to a target, you could use numbers and add your score.
- Play ball games e.g. kicking, rolling, hitting and throwing a ball.
- Talk about how exercise makes us feel - find your heartbeat before and after you exercise and talk about the difference.
- Work the smaller muscles in your body by creating with clay or play dough.
- Dance to some music - change your speed, practise hopping, skipping or balancing.

Literacy

- Write your name or letters - in sand, salt, flour, mud, with chalk, pens, water and a paintbrush... the opportunities are endless!
- Can you find some new and interesting places to read - on a bus, in a tent, on a boat, in a plane..?
- Help write the shopping list.
- What logos and signs do you recognise?
- Think about the sounds that you can hear in words and find some objects that start with the same sound.
- Draw pictures of your favourite things.
- Sign your name in cards or letters.
- Sign up for a library card at your local library and enjoy borrowing lots of books.

Maths

- Practise counting objects with 1 number to each object - you could count teddies, shoes...
- Help set the table - how many cups, plates, sets of cutlery do you need?
- Follow a recipe and help with the measuring.
- What shapes can you cut your toast in to?
- Use a timer to time how long it takes to brush your teeth, get dressed, eat dinner...
- Hunt for numbers when out and about - door numbers, buses, registration plates...
- Play games e.g. dominoes, snakes and ladders, bingo, happy families, jigsaws.
- What shapes can you see when you are out and about?
- Cut shapes from a potato and stamp some patterns.
- Look out for some maths stories e.g. *Great Pet Sale*, *How big is a million?* *1 is a snail 10 is a crab*...

Understanding the World

- Plant some seeds and watch them grow.
- Go on a nature walk at different points in the year and compare the differences.
- Spend time chatting about the weather.
- Collect some natural objects from different places e.g. pine cones, shells, sand...
- Do some cooking and talk about where the ingredients have come from - animal or plant produce.
- Find some books about the seasons, places you would like to visit or animals you would like to learn about.
- Talk about people who help us, and different professions.
- Spend time with and talk about your family, pets and special people.
- Look at where you live and explore other places using Google maps and street view.
- Have a go at taking photographs and using computers or tablets, exploring your favourite characters' websites and

Expressive Arts and Design

- Create your own musical instruments using elastic bands, empty pots, rice etc.
- Explore mixing colours - you could add powder paint to puddles and jump up and down.
- Collage using different textures and materials that you can find.
- 'Re-decorate' using different sized brushes and rollers to paint outside with water.
- Make masks or accessories to play with.
- Use scissors to cut zig zag, wavy and straight lines in paper.
- Look at some different buildings and have a go at building your dream building - a palace, football stadium, castle...