

Fairy Tales and Firefighters

In this topic the children will be learning about a variety of fairy tales and stories about firefighters. This topic was chosen after children demonstrating interests in both of these areas from home visits in the summer term. Children will be using their imaginations to step into the magical worlds of fairies, princesses and princes, kings and queens as well as meeting fire people to ask them questions and learn about their jobs. Children will also learn about festivals that use light and fire, such as Diwali, bonfire night, Hanukkah. We will also teach children about the importance of fire and firework safety.

Key Vocabulary

Once upon a time, happily ever after, hero, heroine, villain, evil, step-mother, setting, magic, fairy, curse, ogre, enchantment, enemy, blaze, emergency, extinguish, embers, hydrant, hazard, hose, flammable, explosion, gun powder plot, Menorah, Rangoli pattern.

Literacy:

Writing: Children will be mark-making, using different writing equipment including pens, pencils, chalks, water and paint. We will teach a pre-cursive letter formation alongside individual letter sounds in phonics. Children will then begin to label things using the initial letter sounds and begin to write CVC words. We will be introducing 'Talk for Writing' to your child and more details of this will follow in your child's home-school-diary. Writing in our classroom is encouraged in all areas.

Reading:

We will be teaching your child to read using the Letters and Sounds scheme in which your child will be learning approximately 4 phonemes per week. These will be sent home to you via the Home-School-Diary. At first your child will receive books with just pictures and then after that the books will include the phonemes that we have been learning. It is important that you encourage your child to sound them out and then blend them back together.

The texts we will be reading in class will include:

The Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella, Rumpelstiltskin, The Three Billy Goats Gruff, The Gingerbread Man, The Little Red Hen, Rapunzel, The Emperor's New Clothes, The Princess and the Pea, The Enormous Turnip, the Elves and the Show Maker, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Sleeping Beauty, Hansel and Gretel, The Enormous Pancake, Chicken Licken.

At home you could help your child's understanding of our topic through reading any fairy tale/watching films about fairy tales and talking and looking at books or doing some research on the internet about the role of fire people. Recognising letter sounds that your child has learnt will also be useful. Helping your child to practise writing their name will also be valuable to their development.

Maths:

Number: We will be focussing on one number per week and really learning about that number in greater depth and thinking about everything to do with that number. We will be learning strategies of how to count objects accurately, recognising numerals, beginning to write numerals, play counting and number games,

Shape, space and measure: We will be weighing and measuring objects by weight, length and capacity and using comparative language. We will also be learning about time and money within a play context. We will learn the names of common 2D and 3D shapes and begin to think about what they look like by describing their properties.

You could help your child at home with their maths by letting them help measure in baking/cooking, counting objects, recognising numerals when you are out and about, measuring height and weight of people in your family, looking for 2D and 3D shapes of objects in your environment as well as counting money.

Personal Social and Emotional Development:

PSED will be taught across the whole curriculum and children will be encouraged to foster independence by choosing their own resources, work as part of a team, choose new activities to carry out, take turns and share, express their emotions and feelings through whole class and small group discussions. The children will also learn to follow and respect the classroom rules and routines, as well as the wider school routines when moving around the school.

At home you could: Play games where you take turns, talk to your child about their feelings and why they make certain choices.

Understanding the World:

The children will be observing changes in the outdoor environment by discussing the changes of the seasons from Autumn to winter and the weather. Children will also look at what happens to animals as the year progresses, thinking about animals that hibernate or fly South.

We will also be looking at seasonal celebrations that happen across a range of faiths and communities including harvest festival, Halloween, Bonfire night, Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas. The children will participate in supporting charitable causes that help support others or remember important times such as Children in Need and Poppy Day.

To develop children's knowledge of information technology children will be learning mouse skills, how to use I-pads to select Apps, programmable toys, such as Beebots and remote control cars and use walkie talkies and the CD player.

At home you could: Play educational games on your computer/tablet/I-Pad: C-beebies and Topmarks.co.uk both have a good selection of games that support children with their learning. You could also discuss important festivals and celebrations within your own family.

Physical Development:

This term we aim to develop both gross and fine motor skills. To be able to do this children will have short, daily sessions of funky fingers, flappers, squiggle whilst you wiggle and dough disco. Children will have continuous access to the outdoor area where we encourage children to build and construct, balance and move in a variety of ways to safely negotiate spaces. Inside the classroom children have the opportunity to self-selected construction toys and the woodwork area where they will develop their skills of handling tools efficiently, effectively and safely. The children will also have a weekly P.E session. This term we will be focussing on dance. We will also begin to develop fine motor skills teaching children to hold writing equipment with a tripod grip as well as teaching them how to form some letters correctly.

At home you could: practice riding a bike, play ball games e.g. throwing and catching, mark-

Communication/language:

This term we will be developing the children's ability to sit and listen in a range of situations, as well as develop children's confidence to talk and ask questions in both large and small groups.

At home you could: Play board games, memory games, talk about what you have done that day, role play and imaginative games.

Expressive Arts and Design:

We will be learning a variety of different songs and poems about fairy tales and fires. Some of these include: There was a princess long ago, When Goldilocks came to the house of the bears and London's burning, Children will get the opportunity to construct and create using a variety of materials and mediums. They will get a chance to explore a range of tools and learn to use them safely and effectively including those to be able to paint, use clay and bake. Children have continued access to materials to be both independent and creative also in the deconstructed role play area and within other role play areas. They will also have opportunities to play untuned percussion instruments.