

EYFS Curriculum Overview – Autumn term (1)

Our topic this term is: Once upon a time

English

Traditional stories can help young children develop vital life skills in a safe environment. Exploring ideas around what is right and wrong is one of many lessons with which we support children as they grow up. We help them to understand that there are expected rules and expectations about how we behave, and to think about cause and effect. Through fairytales the children will discover their actions have consequences and can affect other people's feelings, as well as impacting their own emotions.

We will be listening to familiar stories from British culture. The key texts we will be focusing on are 'Each Peach Pear Plum', 'The Little Red Riding Hood', 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and 'Cinderella'. We will develop familiarity with stories and their meanings. The children will have the opportunity to use their phonics (letter sounds) to develop their writing skills which will include writing invites/letters/thank you cards to various story characters.

Systematic synthetic phonics play a critical role in teaching children the alphabetic code to support early reading and writing skills. Children are taught from the Read Write Inc programme. Children will be given the opportunity to apply their phonic skills in a range of age appropriate ways throughout the environment, both independently and with adult support.

Maths

We begin the term by counting aloud 1-10. We then work on counting objects to 5. Through our topic we will look at naming 2D shapes such as circles, rectangles and triangles and recognising them in our environments. We will compare size, mass and capacity through our fairytales by ordering the billy goats in terms of their sizes etc. We will use gesture and language such as 'bigger/little/smaller/high/low/tall/heavy' to compare the characters and fairytale objects.

Communication and Language:

During our topic the children will be given plenty of opportunities to complete language based tasks (speaking and listening) through role play and to help with their written tasks. They will perform puppet shows and re-create story sequences. Children will learn to show empathy with characters through role-play and 'hot seating'.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

Children will be supported in new routines: milk, snack time and establishing new routines. Children will learn about forming positive class rules together.

This term we will focus on personal hygiene rules. Children will manage their own hygiene when visiting the toilet and washing hands. They will also be developing independent skills such as fastening coats, putting on hats and gloves, visiting toilet, washing hands. As part of our topic children will also explore stories about caring for each other through role-play, small world and puppetry.

Physical Development:

As we begin the term we will work on using tools safely eg: scissors, glue etc. We will also give the children lots of opportunities to develop fine motor/gross motor skills through jigsaws, construction, mark making, malleable, threading, weaving large mark making outside. Using larger equipment children will also develop a sense of balance on climbing equipment as-well as working on their awareness of space, others around them, and to move safely in different environments.

Knowledge and understanding of the world

We will begin our topic exploring different textures through the mixing of porridge and we will investigate what happens when porridge is heated/goes cold. We will then move on to making rafts so that the Billy goats can get across the water - discussing which worked well, why? Which objects would float or sink if they fell into the Troll's river? We will use our iPads to take photos.

Expressive Art & Design

In Art & Design the children will get an opportunity to draw, print and paint. The children will create self portraits using mirrors. We will use playdough to make different characters from our stories. We will use the castle role play area to develop imaginative play and story telling.

We will paint and cut out giant leaves to make a beanstalk going up the wall, create a class picture of different characters. We will also be making a junk model bridge for the Billy Goats Gruff to cross over.

We will learn to sing songs such as 'Hi-Ho', 'There was a Princess Long Ago.' and 'When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears'.