



Thoughtful Thursday 25/6/20

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Nursery team hope that you and your children are safe and well. Here are some ideas and suggestions for a great day with your child. Choose your favourite 3 or do more and if you can, take some photos to share.

What's my name? (suggested time 10-15 minutes max)

- Write or support your child to write their name in chalk on the ground outside or on a chalkboard.
- You could also make other patterns such as zig-zags, shapes etc
- Give your child a paintbrush and some water.
- Ask them to paint over the chalk using the water.
- When writing or painting, talk about the different letters in their name or what shape/pattern they see?



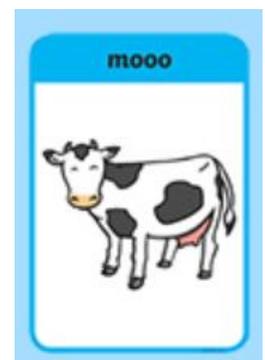
Wake and Shake! (Suggested time 10 minutes max)

- Find a large empty cardboard box, basket or bucket.
 - Use a ball or other soft object and allow your child to practise throwing the ball into the box.
 - Other variations of the activity: sort objects by colour by throwing into the correct colour box, cut small holes in a box to make it more difficult, add numbers to different baskets and they have to throw the matching number of objects.
 - Adjust the distance they are standing away to make it easier/harder.



Voice Sounds! (Suggested time 10 minutes max)

- Look at the different pictures in the story 'The Train Ride.'
- Let's use our voice to make sounds for all the different things you can see in the story.
- Train, cow, sheep, horse, geese, tractor, ocean.
- What sounds do you think they would make? Can you make that sound?
- When you read/look at the story again, can you make the sound when you see the picture.





Literacy (Suggested time 15 minutes)

- Visit the Phonics Play website and play the game 'Welcome to the Zoo.'
- <https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/resources/phase/1/welcome-to-the-zoo>



- Explore the 'Meet the Animals' activity to listen to all the different animal sounds.
- Then play 'Guess the Animal'. Listen to the animal sound in the box and click on the animal that makes that sound.
- Which animal is in the box? What animal makes that sound?
- Can you click on the picture of the animal that matches the sound? Did you get it right?

Snack/Lunch (15 minutes)

- Lets make some toast.
- Talk through the steps needed to make toast and ingredients needed.
- Support your child to get some pieces of bread and carefully put them in the toaster. Talk to them about using appliances carefully.
- Share a selection of spreads that your child could choose to put on their toast.
- Support your child to carefully use a knife to spread butter onto the toast followed by their choice of spread (Peanut butter, jam, nutella, honey)
- Help your child cut the toast into shapes such as triangles, rectangles or squares.
- Enjoy the toast!



Playtime

- Let your child play with any puzzles that you may have in your house- preferably one that may have big pieces.
- Instead of just giving them the puzzle and pieces to complete, wrap the pieces up in foil or paper like a little package.
- Let your child unwrap the puzzle piece and then put it in the correct place.

Topic Activity (15 minutes)

- This week we have looked at the story, 'The Train Ride.'
- During the story, the child sees lots of different things on their journey.
- Take your child on a walk or even a car ride and look at all the different things you can see on your trip.





- Support your child to make a list, draw pictures or take photos of the things that you see.
- Talk with your child about what they can see. Help them to name objects if needed and encourage them to describe objects. Eg. The duck is brown and has feathers and a beak.
- Where did you go on your trip? What did you see on your trip? What was your favourite thing that you saw?

Storytime

- Make a sock puppet for one of the characters of your child's favourite book. They can help to make and decorate it using various craft materials you may have.
- When reading their favourite story, take it in turns to use the puppet to help tell/act out the story. Encourage using different actions and voices when using the puppet.

Apps you Might Like to Explore with Your Child



CBeebies Storytime is filled with free interactive story books and bedtime stories for young children and is a great way to enjoy reading with your little one. The library is always growing, with amazing stories featuring all the CBeebies' favourites.

CBeebies Playtime Island contains a wide range of fun and educational games to help children understand the world around them and support the development of core skills. Children can play along with all of CBeebies' most popular characters.



Lingumi provides a course focused on spoken and communicative English. The app provides sets of learning games, speech recognition games and video-based games to help the child grow their grammar and get them speaking their first words.

Kaligo is a digital handwriting exercise book designed to teach children how to write using a stylus and tablet, built on an AI machine learning platform. A self-paced approach enables children to progress at their own speed according to their own ability, whilst AI Machine learning provides real-time corrective feedback.



Fonetti is a Listening Bookshop™ that provides young children with a patient, comforting listening ear to help in the learning-to-read journey, but also with the added benefit of tracking progress, identifying reading challenges, and highlighting to their adult carers where the most support is needed.

[Phonics websites that you can access](#)

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/#https://www.phonicsbloom.com/>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/5-7-years/letters-and-sounds>