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**Explorers Class Covid Plans** Nursery Children

If your child tests positive for Covid or staff illness means we are unable to open fully we have set work for them to do at home. If you or your children are unwell we believe that they need time to get better! In the later days when you/they are recovered but still self-isolating, please initially **use the weekly newsletter as a guide of what to do with them.** You can upload photos of activities onto our Tapestry App.

In school they would complete a short Literacy, maths, phonics task. Their learning is play based, they are not expected to sit down and complete tasks all day! They need to take part in other open-ended and chosen activities. I have provided lots of examples below.

**Literacy**

* Share picture books at home every day. Read lots of stories. Question children throughout the story to ensure they know what is happening. Can they predict what might happen at the end of the story? Ask them at the end who their favourite character is. Can they recall where the story is set and what happened?
* Practice writing their name to become independent. Please note that this needs to be LOWER case except of course the initial letter! They should be holding the pencil with a tripod (three finger) grip.
* ‘Writing’ for this age group is not necessary letters and words but ‘mark making’ in chalks or a household paint brush dipped in water on the pavements/ patio/ on the wall is also good. As well tracing shapes and letters in a small tray of flour, rice, oats etc.

**Maths**

* Water play in a washing up bowl outside or bath using different sized pots and containers.
* Go on a shape hunt around the house, find lots of objects. Can they describe the shapes e.g. round, tall, long? Challenge: Can they name any of the shapes? (Circle, square, rectangle, triangle.)
* Playing board games and card games like snap.
* Sing counting songs and rhymes e.g. 12345 Once I caught a Fish Alive, 5 Little Speckled Frogs, 5 Current Buns in a Baker’s Shop, Ten green bottles.
* Cut some old birthday cards into 2 pieces. Hide them around the room. Can they find the bits and match them up?
* Make a collection of objects and count them. Ask questions like if I took one away/add one more, how many would there be now?

**Physical development:**

**Gross motor activities**

* The Early Movers website has some good ideas and activities to keep children active: <https://www.earlymovers.org.uk/activities?skill-group=3>
* Ride on a scooter/bike.
* Timed activities For Example-How many jumps/ can you make in 30 seconds?
* Make an obstacle course and talk about the positional language involved; under, over through etc. (An indoor one could include up and down stairs, crawling through a tunnel of chairs, cushion stepping stones etc.)

**Fine motor activities**

* Practice independent care e.g. putting on own clothes, turning them the right way around if inside out, shoes, buttons and zips!
* Threading cheerios/ pasta/beads onto a shoe lace/ string / wool
* Pegging on a washing line or piece of string - the children could peg up some of their work or some socks
* Have a Jigsaw Jamboree and make all the puzzles you have.
* Cutting and sticking activities. For example, old magazines, catalogues etc.
* Play dough is great for motor skills. The children can make all sorts of things with Play dough. See how imaginative they can be!

Here is a recipe you can make it at home:

250ml water

125g plain flour

1tbsp oil

2 tsp cream of tartar

140g salt

Put it all in a saucepan on a low heat and stir until it forms a dough

**Communication and Language**

* Just talking to your child is really valuable. What would they like to be when they are older? What is their favourite animal? What are their earliest memories?
* Tiny happy people is a website with activities and ideas for parents to help develop communication and language skills

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people/3-to-4-year-old-child-development-activities>

* FaceTime or telephone a relative or friend.
* Play I spy.
* Dressing up and pretend games. For example a teddy bears picnic or tea party.

**Understanding of the World**

* Go on a Scavenger or Treasure Hunt around the house or garden e.g. find, 3 things that are red, 2 round things, something that smells nice, some treasure!
* Make cakes/biscuits and discuss how mixtures change when heated
* Plant some seeds. What do they need to make them grow?
* Ask the children to take a photo or make a short video on a phone or tablet to explain something they have done at home for parents to upload onto Tapestry.
* Use a kitchen timer. How many things can you see out of the window/in the garden in 5 minutes?

**Expressive Arts & Design**

* Building imaginative models with Lego/ Duplo e.g. a house, farm, zoo, school
* Go on a colour hunt.
* Dance to different types of music- see if the children can change how they move to pop and classical music
* Make a den
* Play imaginatively as doctors, teachers, vets, shops, schools.
* Junk modelling
* Sing songs and Nursery Rhymes together.
* Craft activities. For example a sock puppet, then use an old box to make a puppet show.

Kind regards

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