



HOME LEARNING

Week beginning 18th May 2020

The following are some suggestions for activities you can complete, in the play context, with your child this week.

These activities will help your child to progress towards some of their early learning goals that we have set for them in this month's planning.

Each child is at different stages of their development in these areas, feel free to adapt these to suit your child's ability level!

World Around Us

This month's theme is 'In the Garden' – we will be learning about plants, insects and animals we would find in the garden. Try to spend some time outside in the garden or in a nearby green space.

Talk to your child about what is the **same** and **different** about insects and animals you might see in the garden. Talk about –

- which can fly, which move around on their legs or slither (like worms!)
- what is the same and different about them – features like long legs / number of legs / their bodies / their size
- their colour
- what they eat
- what shape they are – are they long or short / fat or thin?

The Very Hungry Caterpillar(s!)

Our caterpillars have been growing well ! Most are now Chrysalides. I will continue to post pictures and videos online, on facebook or our website so the children can watch each stage of the cycle.

Keep talking about the stages as the caterpillars change, from egg to caterpillar, to chrysalis, to butterfly!

Numeracy - SORTING

- Sort toys into groups according to their size – e.g. make a pile of big and small items. If they have a good understanding of this talk about items that are *medium* or *middle sizes* too.
- Talk about **same** and **different**.
- Which group has **more**?
- Which group has less?

Literacy

- Use **what**, **why** and **when** questions when reading with your child, or during play. Don't overdo the questioning, as it can sometimes interrupt the natural flow of a story or play activity, but do ask some – to help them to develop an understanding of these questions – P.1 teachers will use these lots in discussions to be able to gauge understanding.

Gross Motor Skills – Jumping and Hopping

- Try to give your child opportunities to jump and hop, encourage them to pretend to be insects that jump or hop. Set them challenges for how far or high they can jump or how many hops they can do on each leg. Make an obstacle course inside or outside too!

Personal and Emotional Development

This week is Mental Health Awareness week, with an emphasis on kindness.

Talk to your child about what 'kindness' is and how they can be kind – both to themselves and others!

- Encourage kindness and consideration of living things – plants, insects, others
- Model and praise kindness at home – sharing sweets or toys, helping out, video calling someone you think may be lonely and who would appreciate a call.

Suggested Stories on 'In the Garden'/Kindness themes

(Search on youtube for read aloud formats)

How Kind – Mary Murphy

The Tiny Seed – Eric Carle

Planting a rainbow – Lois Ehlert

Jack's Garden – Henry Cole

Look out for stories read by our staff on our facebook page too.

Visit LibrariesNI website or social media pages.

We are here if you have any queries – email me on pmuir291@c2kni.net.

Pamela