

Foundation Stage Topic Web Newsletter

Class/Year: Reception

Term: Spring 1



Introduction to topic/theme:

This half term we will be looking at the topic 'A Helping Hand'. This is a wide-ranging topic that offers children lots of opportunity to draw connections between people and places. Through it we will learn more about our local community, from friends to childminders and shopkeepers to fire fighters.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Thinking of ways to be helpful and how to show thanks.– Links to Random Acts of Kindness Day on Thursday 17th February.
- Discussions about people who help us every day.
- Introduction to Reflection Time at the end of each day.
- Managing our behaviour and conflicts to find peaceful resolutions.

Physical Development

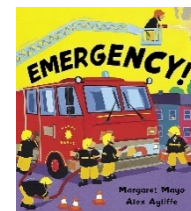
- Finger gym activities to continue to help us develop fine motor skills.
- Manipulating malleable materials to create models of emergency vehicles.
- Continuing with developing our ball skills – control, throwing and catching, collecting and stopping etc.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Observational drawings of emergency vehicles.
- Making thank you cards and gifts for people who help us.
- Dressing up in uniform and taking on a role in play.
- Baking salt dough pastries for a Baker's Shop.
- Creating our own superhero masks.

Communication, Language & Literacy

Our key texts for the half term are below. We will focus more on recalling, sequencing and retelling stories. We will also be recording short words and captions as we write about what we want to be when we grow up and list ingredients for our own sweet houses using the story of Hansel and Gretel for inspiration!



Mathematics

- Representing numbers
- Learning to recognise the number of objects in a small group without the need to count them (Subitise)
- Comparing numbers and amounts
- Making pairs and combining groups
- Bonds to 5
- Comparing mass and capacity

Understanding the World

Children will be learning about the role of key workers in helping us stay safe and learn about road safety. We will continue to observe seasonal changes and will also be learning about celebrations such as Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and Shrove Tuesday. We will discuss how to keep fit and healthy and how to look after our bodies, bones and teeth! Children will begin to join in with the Toothbrushing Programme and consider ways in which they can improve their diets and overall wellbeing.

Ideas to try at home

- Choose a key worker and use books and the Internet to learn more about how they help us. Create a fact sheet about them.
- Help your child to create a thank you card for a key worker.
- Discuss recycling and how we can do this to help our environment.
- Use junk modelling resources (lids, boxes, bottles etc.) to create an emergency vehicle with your child.
- Visit the supermarket and talk about people who help us there and what their roles are.
- Draw and write about your own Superhero.
- Bake with your child and use this as an opportunity to discuss weight and measurements.