

We hope you are all doing well, settling into a new routine with your families and that most of you have been able to check out the ideas on our Facebook and Twitter pages. If you do not have internet access or just want someone to talk to please let us know by leaving a message on the nursery phone 028 7034 4893. We will be happy to ring you for a quick chat...

The day can sometimes be long when you're all at home together so here's a few ideas for pre-school home learning in this newsletter.

Bear Hunt

One of the stories the children really enjoy is "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" by Michael Rosen. You can find it on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgyI6yKDwds> or as a libraries NI story.

It offers good opportunities to help your child join in, make the silly sounds and learn about using prepositions: over under through etc.

Activities to try at home

- 1 After listening to "We're Going on a Bear Hunt":
 - ✓ Cosmic Kids "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" on YouTube.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KAT5NiWHFIU> This is a 15-minute simple yoga adventure for children. Why not join in with your child as they demonstrate some of the yoga positions?
 - ✓ Some families have placed a teddy in the window. Look out for them if you are walking or driving around the neighbourhood.
 - ✓ Hide a few of your child's teddy bears in the house. Then make binoculars using two toilet roll tubes and sellotape. Use the binoculars to look for bears hidden throughout the house. Can you find 1,2,3,4, 5...bears?
- 2 Name game.
 - ✓ How many items can you name from a category e.g. minibeasts, farm animals, things that can fly, types of fruit, types of vegetables etc.
- 3 Kim's Game - Memory Game. Gather three or four items on a tray. Allow the child to look at/ study them for a minute or so and then cover them. How many items can your child remember? Add or remove items depending on how easy your child finds the game.
- 4 Outdoor physical activities. Apart from the normal running and outdoor play, try to include: encourage children to balance/follow on the lines on the tiles and using them to hopscotch and not forgetting to encourage using alternate feet on the stairs while counting.
- 5 Look at the wildlife, hedgerows and keep track of the changes in nature and photos and drawings.

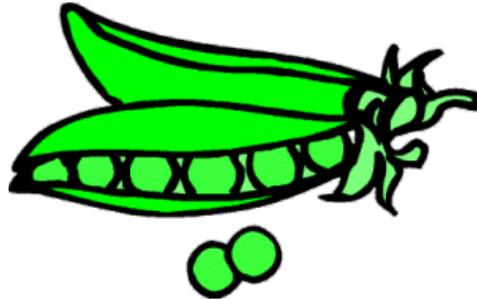
- 6 Gardening activities- planting and digging. What about peas or sunflowers?
- 7 Fill a sink with water and have some fun washing and blowing bubbles.
- 8 Play board games e.g. Snap, Pairs
- 9 Ideas to promote fine motor skills include scissor activities with dough, newspaper, old magazines and card. As the skills progress change the thickness of the paper to make it more difficult and challenging by using former birthday cards and Christmas cards. Use household items like tongs and tweezers to lift sticks, cotton balls, small stones, etc.
- 10 Den building with cushions and blankets under a table or behind the sofa....

Please send us photos of what you're doing at home - we love to see them! We miss you all and hope to be back together again soon!

RHYME TIME

5 Little Peas

Five little peas in a pea pod pressed,
One grew, two grew, and so did all the rest.
They grew and grew and they did not stop,
Until one day the pod went POP!



There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf (wiggle, wiggle)



There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf (wiggle, wiggle)
There's a tiny caterpillar, tiny caterpillar,
There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf (wiggle, wiggle)

He will eat the leaves around him 'til he's full (munch, munch)
He will eat the leaves around him 'til he's full (munch, munch)
He will eat the leaves around, eat the leaves around
He will eat the leaves around him 'til he's full (munch, munch)

A cocoon is what he's spinning for his home (spin, spin)
A cocoon is what he's spinning for his home (spin, spin)
A cocoon is what he's spinning, cocoon is what he's spinning,
A cocoon is what he's spinning for his home (spin, spin)

Then he'll be a butterfly and fly away (flap, flap)
Then he'll be a butterfly and fly away (flap, flap)
Then he'll be a butterfly, be a butterfly,
Then he'll be a butterfly and fly away (flap, flap)

