



## Newsletter: Term 5 2020

What a strange time it has been, we are missing our Seashells children and families very much at the moment and hope you are all safe and well. We thought we would send out a newsletter to support home learning and share some ideas.

Whilst it's fantastic for children to be learning at home, the most important thing is that learning is fun and enjoyable for them. At this age children learn through play which is supported and extended by adults.

You can refer to the 'What to expect, when?' document which has been added to the website and was sent out last term, this should give you an idea of things your child should be doing depending on their age and has ideas about how you can support their development across all areas of the curriculum.

Twinkl is also a fantastic website which has lots of resources to support children's learning and development.

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/>



### Termly theme/topic

Our topic this term is 'Amazing Animals' with a focus on pets, birds and minibeasts. We have included activity ideas linked to these themes which will be added to the website under: Parents-Home Learning- Seashells Nursery. Most of the suggested stories and songs can be found on YouTube.

### Phonics

All children in nursery were being exposed to phonics and some children (due to start school) in September were having 'Read, Write, Inc' lessons with Emma.

You can access free Read Write Inc. Phonics lessons on Facebook and YouTube for children to watch at home; three short Speed Sound lessons every day, nursery children have been doing Set 1 sounds.

<https://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/find-out-more/help-during-school-closure/>

Phonics Play is another fantastic website for literacy games and resources.

<https://new.phonicsplay.co.uk/>

### Maths

There are so many opportunities to cover 'maths' at home, regular counting of various objects around the home, observations about size- such as longer, taller, shorter, bigger, smaller, identifying shapes of everyday objects, identifying numerals, finding a number of items to match a numeral, or comparing two sets of objects and deciding which set has the most.



### Bedtime Stories

Children love stories, not only is it a fantastic way to settle them to bed but they gain so much from having regular stories. It is an opportunity for them to develop their understanding, build vocabulary and add to their knowledge and imagination. If it is a familiar story you could stop at certain points and allow your child a chance to recall the next part or encourage them to join in with repeated refrains or complete rhyming parts of the story. Stories could also link in with other activities, such as making a character from the story, creating a scene in the story, acting it out or understanding characters' feelings and emotions.

### Cooking

Last term, the children began to explore healthy choices as we started to grow our own vegetables and thought about where our food comes from. A great way to get children interested in their food is to get them to help prepare it. Cutting salad, assembling a sandwich or a wrap and discussing what it has in it is not only a great opportunity to learn about food and develop skills associated with cooking, but also encourages children to try foods they are not usually so keen on!

***Thank you for your continued support, we hope you all remain safe and well at this difficult time.***

***The Seashells Nursery Team***

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