

EARLY YEAR FOUNDATION STAGE TOPIC OVERVIEW SPRING TERM 1

Communication and Language

- Key Language Concepts developed through key worker sessions – many & few, long and short, understanding the meaning of why, first and last, using comparatives – bigger, longer, smaller, understanding opposites, using pronouns – his, her, linking sentences using because.
- Listen to a range of Winter stories - Discussion following stories using narrative questions – who, where, what happened, why, the end
- Vocabulary development linked to topic– winter, frost, ice, snow, sleet, cold, freezing, crisp, fresh
- Key worker time – story time / Show & Tell / Rhyme Time / targeted language games / vocabulary development

Physical Development

- Participate in daily wake and shake routines
- Fine motor skills - Developing hand strength / pincer grip ready for writing – playdough activities / dough disco / clever finger activities / finger rhymes
- Practise putting on winter clothes e.g. gloves / fastening zips & buttons
- Mark making consolidation of letter formation – in snow / shaving foam / cornflour dough / salt etc.
- Write Dance
- PE unit – Dance

Literacy

- Key text – Fiction Polar Bear, Polar Bear / Non-fiction Instructions
- Retelling key text - using words and actions / opportunities to retell & innovate story through continuous provision
- Non-fiction text – Facts about Polar animals / reading & writing instructions for making hot chocolate
- Handwriting - formation of robot letters r, n, m, h, b, k
- Red Rose Phonics – j / v / w / x / y / z / zz / qu / ch / sh / th / th / ng.
- Tricky words - he she we be me was my you they
- Stories – linked to Winter, Arctic & polar bears / Antarctica & penguins



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Jigsaw (Unit 3) - Dreams & Goals
- Key worker circle time

Mathematics

- Subitise within 5 focusing on die patterns Match numerals to quantities within 5
- Counting – focus on ordinality and the 'staircase' pattern See that each number is one more than the previous number
- Focus on 5
- Focus on 6 and 7 as '5 and a bit'
- Compare sets and use language of comparison: more than, fewer than, an equal number to Make unequal sets equal

Understanding the World

- Sense of Time – Class visual timetable – introduce vocabulary linked to the sequence of days - yesterday, tomorrow, before, after / naming and sequencing of seasons
- Sense of Place – Our Frozen Planet. Changes that occur during Winter – Explore what happens? What do they see, hear and feel whilst outside during Winter? How do we / animals adapt during winter?
- Investigate ways to keep warm & make hot chocolate
- Investigating & exploring ice and water. Do all objects freeze?
- Explore how some environments that are different from the one in which we live - Arctic & Polar Bears / Antarctica – Penguins
- Special Times & Celebrations – Chinese New Year
- RE Unit – Chatter Box: Special Places

Expressive Arts and Design

- Exploring Colours – cold colours
- Cutting skills – creating snowflakes
- Weaving with cold colours
- 3D paper sculptures using shades of blue
- Making playdough – model of a polar bear
- Musical patterns using body / instruments