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| \\wosen-file01\staffhome$\lgreen\Downloads\just bird (1).jpg | Week commencing: 8/3/21  Unit theme: How does it Grow?  Story: The Cautious Caterpillar  Weekly theme: Bees | | \\wosen-file01\staffhome$\lgreen\Downloads\Footsteps logo (1).jpg |
| Dove (Woodhouse Learning) | | | |
| Communication activities | | Cognition (Maths-based) activities | |
| **Help your child to engage with fun stories and musical activities through actions and signs**  **This half term, our focus skill is: Following instructions.**  **The learning intention is:**  To be able to listen to communicative partners  To be able to process information and respond  **Activity ideas**   * **Reading**   Read the story ‘The Cautious Caterpillar’ (See PowerPoint on the website). Encourage your child to follow instructions to turn the page (if printed) or click onto the next slide (if reading on a computer). Support them to point out characters in the story and to copy the Makaton signs - search for ‘Singing Hands Minibeasts’ on YouTube.  Sign of the week is ‘bee’.     * **Simon says**   Encouraging your child to copy your actions is a great way to develop attention and communication skills. The ‘Minibeast Actions’ resource on the school website can give some ideas and visual supports.     * **Tactile**   In the story the bumblebee talks to the caterpillar about drinking nectar from flowers. Use the ‘Flower Instructions’ resource on the school website for a simple craft activity. | | **There are lots of ways to learn about maths around the house. Doing puzzles, playing games and exploring house equipment are all great ways to practise early maths skills.**  **This half term, our focus skill is: Object permanence.**  **The learning intention is:**  To develop a wider understanding of the world around us by making links between past learning and immediate experiences.  **Activity ideas**   * **Art – finding the correct colours**   Encourage your child to find yellow/black playdough from a choice of different colours and use this to make little bees with different amounts of stripes. Follow the link below for a recipe to make taste-safe playdough <https://www.pinterest.co.uk/pin/5840674504572923/>  See ‘Bee playdough mat’ resource on the school website.     * **Number songs – finding the bee**   Sing the song ‘5 Little Bumblebees’ (See printable visuals on the website). Encourage your child to find the bees and put one onto the hive after each verse.   * **Food – knowing the location of kitchen equipment**   Drink like a bee and make a milkshake using honey and fruit. Encourage your child to locate equipment in the kitchen, e.g. by getting a knife from the drawer or fruit from the fridge. You can adapt the ‘Make a Milkshake’ resource on the school website based on your child’s preferences. | |
| Sensory activities | | Physical activities | |
| **Sensory activities can be extremely motivating, develop attention skills and help your child to self-regulate.**   * **Cooking**   Skill: Spreading  Spread honey onto bread to make a snack fit for a bumble bee! This simple activity promotes independence and fine motor skills.   * **Art**   Skill: Using a paintbrush  Encourage your child to use a paintbrush in different ways to paint a bumblebee. Try to keep within the lines to do the black and yellow stripes. Follow the link below for a recipe to make taste-safe paint.  <https://rainydaymum.co.uk/baby-play-finger-painting/>  See printable resource on the school website – ‘Bee Colouring Template’.     * **Tactile**   Skill: Fine motor movements  Make a bee-themed sensory bin and encourage your child to develop their fine motor skills by using their fingers to pick up small object, post and thread. | | **Physical activity is great to keep our minds active and burn lots of energy!**   * **Dance**   Skill: Gross motor movements  Encourage your child to copy the actions to this fun insect dance! Search on YouTube for ‘Learn to Dance: Bugs and Crawly Things’ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hUbYq93cYdE>     * **Gross motor**   Skill: Proprioception/Body awareness  Giving proprioceptive input can be great for calming and regulating children with sensory processing issues, see website below for more information.  <https://www.theottoolbox.com/proprioception-sensory-activities/>  You could try activities such as wheelbarrow walking or a heavy lifting relay race to give lots of input to the body.   * **Jumping**   Skill: Body awareness  Encourage your child to jump on the spot, forwards, backwards and sideways! See printable resource ‘Jumping Visuals’ on the website. | |
| Additional learning links | | | |
| * Start the day with a ‘Good Morning’ routine – See example PowerPoint on the school website (Click ‘enable content’ when opening the PowerPoint to ensure videos will open) * Search on YouTube for educational songs, e.g. ‘Barefoot Books’ or ‘The Learning Station’ * Cbeebies.com – games, TV shows and songs. ‘Something Special’ is great for teaching children (and the rest of the family!) Makaton signs. * TACPAC – See information sheet and example PowerPoint on the school website. Click on the musical notes symbol for links to songs. * Follow ‘Gina Davies Autism Centre’ on Facebook to find out more about the *Attention Autism* programme that we use in school and get tips on how you could replicate this at home, either by watching the videos with your child or creating your own session <https://www.facebook.com/ginadaviesautism/posts/> * Yoga/relaxation session – See PowerPoint on the school website | | | |
| Other information | | | |
| * We have put together an example timetable to help you structure your day – See ‘Footsteps Daily Routine Example’ on the school website. Please adapt this for your child and include as much or as little of the content as you feel appropriate. Symbols can be printed out and used with the ‘Now and next’ board to support your child to understand their routine. * Please feel free to share any photos or achievements on Dojo or the school Twitter page. * If you need any further information, or would like a pack of these resources delivered to your home, you can email me at jessica.arnold@westoaksschool.co.uk | | | |