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| \\wosen-file01\staffhome$\lgreen\Downloads\just bird (1).jpg | Week commencing: 8/3/21  Unit theme: How does it grow?  Story: The Tiny Seed  Weekly theme: The icy mountain | | \\wosen-file01\staffhome$\lgreen\Downloads\Footsteps logo (1).jpg |
| Kingfisher (Boston Spa Learning)  Sandpiper (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: Making choices.**  **The learning intention is:**  To be able to communicate preferences.  **Activity ideas**   * **Reading**   Read the story ‘The Tiny Seed’ (See PowerPoint on the school 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/objects in the story and to copy the Makaton signs – see ‘Tiny Seed Makaton Signs’ resource on the school website.  The sing of the week is ‘cold’.     * **Choosing clothes**   Encourage your child to choose different clothing for the cold weather! They could dress themselves, you or favourite teddy or doll. This can support the development of independence skills and fine motor skills by turning dressing into a game. See ‘Finding Clothes’ resource on the school website.     * **Tastes and smells**   Make your own ice cream sundae. Encourage your child to make choices between different options and to communicate their preferences. See ‘Ice Cream Preferences Symbols’ resource on the school website. | | **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 maths skills.**  **This half term, our focus skill is: Measure – Capacity.**  **The learning intention is:**  To be able to make comparisons between objects.  **Activity ideas**   * **Cooking**   Make own ice lollies using the ‘Ice Lolly Recipe’ resource on the school website. Cooking can also be a great way to engage children with exploring objects of different shapes and sizes. Encourage your child fill up the containers, this could be an ice lolly mould if you have one or use freezer-safe plastic containers or freezer bags.     * **Craft**   Follow the instructions on the ‘Make a Rain Gauge’ resource on the school website to investigate how much water you can collect at home. You could recycle the rain for watering plants or to be used in outdoor water play.     * **Water play**   Water play can be very motivating for our pupils and great way to support them to explore capacity. Use any outdoor space you have to get really messy, or you could incorporate water play into bath/shower time by having a range of different containers to fill with water. If you have the resources/space to plant some real seeds then this is a great activity to explore different containers, such as watering cans, jugs, cups, bottles, etc.  Key vocabulary to focus on: full, empty, more, less. | |
| Sensory activities | | Physical activities | |
| **Sensory activities can be extremely motivating, develop attention skills and help your child to self-regulate.**   * **Building**   Skill: Fine motor skills  Use building blocks to build the tallest mountain you can! There are loads of skills involved here, such as spatial awareness, problem solving and persistence.     * **Art**   Skill: Using different art media  Try making your own frozen paints by freezing water and food colouring in ice cube trays. Encourage your child to experiment with adding different amounts of the liquids – Can you make a brighter colour by adding more food colouring? Can you find a container to make a bigger paint stick? You will need to make the paints the day before you want to use them for art.     * **Sensory walk**   Skill: Exploring the environment  Enjoy some time out in the fresh air and see if you can find everything on the ‘Winter Hunt Checklist’ printable resource on the website. | | **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 dance! Search on YouTube for ‘Snowflake Song by The Learning Station’ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uY3w_v6Ua9U>     * **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 school 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 | | | |