

Ship Ahoy!

Ship ahoy me hearties! Much of our learning in this topic will be based upon the theme of pirates. This is a topic designed to fire up young imaginations and inspire children to create pirate adventures and make treasure maps, treasure hunts and stories...

Communication and Language

Children will have opportunities to read and talk about pirate adventure stories and poems. They will

- listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments
- express themselves effectively (showing awareness of the listener's needs).

Writing

We will be creating treasure maps and clues, messages in bottles...

Some of the key skills we will work on will include

- writing some words correctly (three letter words) and making attempts at other words
- writing some words from memory
- writing simple sentences.



Reading

As always, children will experience a daily phonics lesson as part of their reading and writing development.

Some of the key skills for we will work on include

- blending sounds together to read words, e.g sh – o – p
- recognising words immediately (please see the word list in your child's yellow reading record book)
- reading simple sentences.



Understanding the World

As they explore how to make pirate rafts and ships in our water area, children will have opportunities to

- **talk about similarities between materials** – what treasures will sink and what will float in our pirate ocean water tray? What materials will make the best ship or raft to carry treasure?
- **observe and talk about how plants grow and change** when we plant seeds and bulbs and watch our treasure island garden grow.

Our ICT work will include the children having opportunities to select and use ICT for particular uses. Children will

- **use ICT** (the ipad and paint programme) record pictures of our pirate adventures
- **give Beebot, our programmable toy**, a sequence of instructions to send it across the huge floor treasure maps.



Expressive Arts and Design

Design technology

Whether making swag bags to carry their treasure in, eye patches or pirate hats or even pirate ships that float in the water, children will have opportunities to

- explore and use safely a range of different tools for making objects (scissors, masking tape and glue, using staplers, hole punches, tags, saws ...).



Music/drama

Children will have opportunities to sing pirate songs, make sea shanty music and experiment with ways of changing sounds. They will also create adventure stories and

- use instruments to explore how to create sounds from the sea
- use instruments to accompany our songs.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

Children will have opportunities to

- take turns with others
- take account of one another's ideas about how to organise an activity
- to show sensitivity to others needs and feelings
- choose the resources they need for their chosen activities.

Physical Development

Children will have opportunities to ...

- handle equipment and tools effectively – including scissors, hole punches, staplers and pencils for writing
- travel under, over and through balancing and climbing equipment and move confidently in a range of ways, safely negotiating space (as they race over our treasure island assault course!)
- manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs successfully (including dressing, going to the toilet and **blowing noses!!!**)
- **learn about the importance of a healthy diet and talk about ways to keep healthy and safe.**

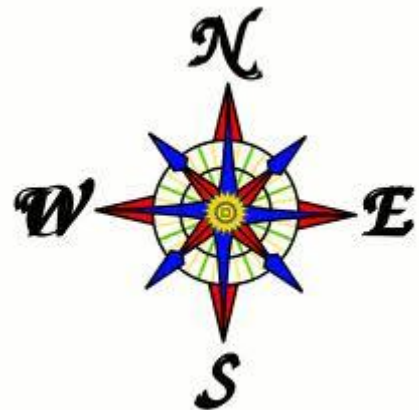


Mathematics

Children will continue to have opportunities in our daily number time sessions to develop the following skills:



- Counting accurately (at least up to 20 objects)
- Recognising and ordering numbers (again at least up to 20)
- Saying what is one more and one less than any number to 20 (and then beyond 20)
- Adding and subtracting single digit numbers (using objects such as counters or toys to help)
- Learning doubles of numbers (up to 5+5 initially) as well as learning how to half groups of objects.



At home you can...

- enjoy sticking in items into your child's 'Me and My World' book with your child and encourage your child to talk about what they have done, sequencing their thoughts clearly
- visit the library to find books linked to our topic
- read at least five times a week
- discuss the characters in stories and how they behave and relate to each other
- count everything! Arrange items that can be moved into a line prior to counting and make sure that your child touches and counts each object slowly
- look for numbers in the environment – make a set of number cards (0-20) and order the numbers together. Take out a number and see if your child can spot which number is missing
- **Praise and encourage every effort that your child makes when trying to be independent at dressing, undressing and managing personal hygiene – confidence and independence are so closely connected!**
- **Please look at your child's 'My Next Steps' sheet as this will contain more specific information that relates to your child's individual needs.**