

Once Upon a Time.....

Spring 1 Year R



This term we will be thinking about lots of different fairy tale stories including Jack and the Beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Bears and The Gingerbread Man.

Communication and Language and Literacy

The children will complete phase 3 phonics and move onto phase 4. Remember each sound has an action which helps the children to learn the sound, so why not ask them what the action is. We will also be practising how to write letters correctly. We will be focusing on early reading skills and developing a love of reading. We will be reading a range of stories linked to our weekly themes, and we will begin our guided reading sessions.

Mathematics

We will be looking at the children's early counting skills, number recognition, problem solving and using numbers to 20. Our emphasis is on practical skills, built into play situations. We will also focus on writing numbers correctly.

Understanding the World

We will be looking at different objects and sorting them using all of our senses. We will be discussing the differences between living and non-living things. Children will be encouraged to ask questions about how things work. We will continue to use simple tools, such as scissors, staplers etc. Please help us with this whenever your child is cutting out at home, encourage them to use the scissors correctly, and if they find this difficult please continue to practise cutting at home. Children will have lots of opportunities to use the computer and interactive whiteboard.

We will also be doing a spot of cooking to support our 'Once Upon a Time' theme, so if you have your DBS form and you fancy helping, please let your class teacher know.

Linked to our work on stories, we will think about stories Jesus told and discuss the key messages of each story.

Expressive Arts and Design

Our creative work will focus on drawing skills and creating different shades using different pencils. We will also be experimenting with wax crayons, oil pastels, charcoal and other media. As part of our design and technology, we will be experimenting with joining various materials in different ways, and on designing and thinking about the outcome, before we start making.

Physical Development

Our dance is themed around 'The Smartest Giant in Town' and its focus is to develop dance skills and to move imaginatively. In gymnastics we will be making different body shapes and exploring the way our bodies move. We will be learning how to move and use the PE apparatus safely.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be thinking about why it is important to share, and to take turns with others. We will also be thinking about objects and belongings that are special to us. We will also be linking the theme of 'stranger danger' to Little Red Riding Hood, and talking about how the children can keep themselves safe. We will have a weekly circle time session to reinforce our Golden Rules.

How can you help at home with this topic?

- As our topic is Once Upon a Time please read as many fairy and traditional tales as you can; hunt out old books and see if you can borrow some from the library.
- Please read every day and sign your child's reading record. Children can also read books from home, please write these in as well. We will change the books as often as possible, however our aim is to discuss the books as much as possible and so the children may have the same book for a longer length of time.
- Weather warning! Please remember we go out every day during 'Sparkle Time', whatever the weather, and the children need to be dressed appropriately for the cold. Please send in a coat every day and named hats, gloves etc. on really cold days.
- This half term there will be two pieces of homework; one on the second Monday in January and one on the first Monday in February. Please look out for these being sent home. Both will be linked to the work we do in class, and our aim is for them to be short, fun activities to share together, rather than a being a large project!

If you have any questions about this topic or your child's learning please speak to your child's class teacher.

Miss Rachel Park

Foundation Stage Leader