



Nursery News April/May 2018

Hello everyone! Our DINOSAUR topic last month was a ROARING success and the children thoroughly enjoyed it as we're sure you already know!

Nursery Themes This Month

Over the next 6 weeks our main themes will be UNDER THE SEA and PIRATES. These are relatively new themes for the Nursery so we are still building up our resources. If you have anything you think may be useful for this topic, please let us know. We are looking forward to lots of active, play-based learning as there is such a variety of life under the sea which we will have fun learning about.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development focus

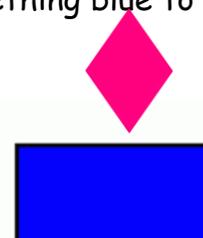
- We are encouraging the children to persevere with a task and take pleasure in their achievements.
- The children are also being encouraged to cooperate with each other on an end goal.
- We are encouraging the children to concentrate for a longer period of time.
- Developing independence continues to be a focus.

Physical development focus

- We are encouraging the children to move with increasing confidence, control and coordination. Our Super hero day obstacle course will further develop these skills!
- We are providing more tricky activities to continue to develop fine motor skills, using tweezers, very small threading beads etc. to help develop hand/eye coordination.

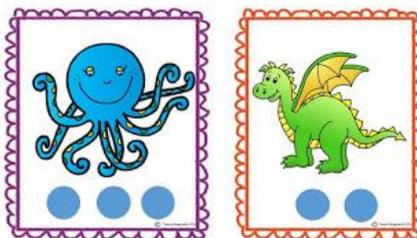
Maths focus

- Our **colour focus** for this month is **Blue** and it will be blue day on Thursday 27th April, when children can bring in something blue to show their friends and talk about.
- Our **shape focus** this month are the shapes diamond and rectangle
- We are focusing on the concept of weight in class and developing mathematical language associated with this.
- We are continuing to encourage the children to rote count to ten and to touch count. We are also beginning to recognise some numbers in the environment.



Literacy Focus

- We are encouraging the children to recognise their own (written) name, as the children will be finding their **name** and not their photograph for self-registration.
- We are continuing to listen for syllables in words and follow our good listening rules.



- We are finding the cover, title and blurb on our books and are looking at how we "read" the title from left to right. **There is an excellent resource recently created called Rub-A-Dub-Hub which is a Libraries NI free online resource for pre-school children, their parents and carers to help boost literacy development in children. Please visit the libraries NI website for more details.**
- Some boys and girls are taking an interest in writing their names and so we are also continuing to work on how to hold our pencils correctly. We will send out more information on how to help develop this skill in May.

Parent Questionnaire

We would really appreciate your feedback on your child's nursery experience. The questionnaire will be placed in your child's drawer and will only take a few minutes to complete. We would ask that you send it back as soon as possible in the envelope provided. You do not need to put your name on the questionnaire and we would appreciate your honesty!

Thank You.



Reminders



- ⊕ Please remember to take home your child's art work.
- ⊕ Please return book bags on a Tuesday.
- ⊕ You will receive a questionnaire in your child's book bag. We need to consolidate the responses of this and the previous Big Bedtime Read questionnaire and send the results to the Education Authority, so please return it in your child's book bag on Tuesday. Thank you!
- ⊕ Don't forget about our sponsored event! We are sure you have heard about the increasing financial strain placed on all schools due to an extremely limited budget, so we would really appreciate your support!



Dates for
the Diary:

- **Wednesday 18th April**- Special visit from Mr Hullabaloo. Normal school arrangements.
- **Thursday 19th April**- Sponsored Event- SUPER HERO DAY. The children can come dressed as a Super Hero and will have lots of fun, especially taking part in a Super Hero obstacle course. **(Please note this is a change of date from the previous newsletter).**
 - **Monday 23rd April-Friday 27th April**- Full time room Parent Teacher Interviews. Nursery closes at 12 noon. Doors open 11.50am
- **Wednesday 25th April**- SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS. All children can have an individual and class photograph taken. Please speak to your child's teacher if you would like other family members included.
- **Thursday 27th April**- Blue day. Children can bring a blue toy/object to Nursery to talk about and show their friends.
- **Friday 4th May**- Big Bad Bass, Ulster Orchestra visit. All children should come to Nursery anytime between 9.00am and 9.20am to ease traffic congestion. Children should be collected after the performance anytime between 10.45am and 11.00am.
- **Monday 7th May**-Nursery closed, May Day Bank Holiday.
- **Friday 25th May**-Nursery closed due to new intake induction day.
- **Monday 28th May**-Nursery closed-Bank holiday,
- **Tuesday 29th May**-Nursery closed-Staff Development Day



Once I saw an octopus
In the deep blue sea. (Point
downward)
I called, "Mr. Octopus,
Won't you swim with me?" (Cup
hands around mouth)
Then out came his tentacles,
So very long and straight,
(extend eight fingers.)
One and two and three and
four,
Five and six and seven and
eight. (count on fingers.)

When I was one, I sucked my thumb
The day I went to sea
I climbed onboard a pirate ship and the
captain said to me
We're going this way, that way,
forwards, backwards,
Over the deep blue sea,
A bottle of rum to fill my tum
And that's the life for me.

The big ship sails on the Alley,
Alley O,
Alley, Alley O, Alley, Alley O;
The big ship sails on the Alley,
Alley O
On the last day of September
The Captain said, 'It will never,
never do...
The big ship sank to the bottom
of the sea...

If You're a Pirate and You Know It

If you're a pirate and you know it, clean the deck (*swish, swish*)
If you're a pirate and you know it, clean the deck (*swish, swish*)
If you're a pirate and you know it, then you'll hear the sea winds
blowin'.
If you're a pirate and you know it, clean the deck (*swish, swish*)
next:
If you're a pirate and you know it, walk the plank (*stomp, stomp*)
If you're a pirate and you know it, look for treasures (*look through
spyglass*)
If you're a pirate and you know it, say ahoy Ahoy! (*with arm movement*)

Songs and Rhymes

Sung to: "Clementine"

I am swimming, I am
swimming,
I am swimming in the
sea.
I'm a big whale and I'm
swimming,
I am swimming in the
sea.

I'm an octopus and I am
stretching

I'm a crab and I am
pinching

I'm a shark and I am
biting

I'm a jellyfish and I am
wobbling



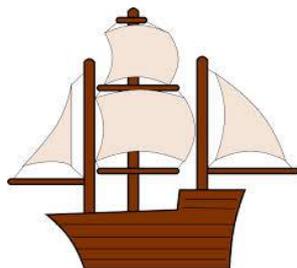
Five little sea creatures
On the ocean floor;
The lobster walked away
Now there are four.

Four little sea creatures
Living in the sea;
The octopus crept away
Now there are three.

Three little sea creatures
Wondering what to do;
"Good-bye," said the starfish
Now there are two.

Two little sea creatures
Not having much fun;
Off swam the sea horse
Now there is one.

One little hermit crab
Sad and all alone,
Back came the starfish,
Back came the sea horse,
Back came the octopus,
Back came the lobster,
Then all five went home.



We all like swimming in the
deep blue sea...

The waves in the sea go up
and down...

The crabs on the beach crawl
side to side...

The lobsters on the beach go
snip, snap, snip...

The jellyfish all go wibble,
wobble, wibble...

The limpets on the rocks say
"Hold on tight"...

(tune - The Wheels on the
Bus)

