

How to Help your Child

People Who Help Us

February / March

Language Development:

Children will be introduced to a range of language associated with our People Who Help Us topic and they will be encouraged to use this language as they play and explore in the nursery. Children will be read a variety of books based on doctors, nurses, firemen, postal workers, dentists, policemen and chefs. Read to your child daily and praise concentration, interaction and listening skills during stories. We will be encouraging children to handle and care for books with increasing skill this month- let your child hold books and 'read' to you!. Children love making marks and exploring writing materials- provide writing materials, old cards/envelopes for children to explore and encourage them to describe what their marks convey.

Personal, Social, Emotional Development

We will be encouraging children to discuss and appreciate people who help them at home, the community and school. Talk to your child about thanking others for their help and praise children for helping out at home. During circle time we will be focusing on how to help others and be a good friend, talk to your child about their friends in nursery and the importance of friendship.

Early Mathematical Experiences:

Children will be introduced to the colour pink and the heart shape. They will be encouraged to observe colours and shapes naturally during play indoors and outdoors. Children will continue to be familiarised with language associated with shape, colour, size, time and quantity. We are introducing language based on size such as 'thick and thin', find thick and thin objects at home with your child or manipulate dough making thick and thin creations. Count with your child for a variety of purposes- use our counting rhymes to make counting fun and interactive. We will begin to look at and match numbers in nursery this month- find numbers around the environment and discuss these.

The Arts:

Encourage your child to draw, paint and make to express their ideas and experiences. Children will be given the opportunity to experiment with art materials to create topic based items. We will be encouraging children to develop representation skills by adding facial features and body parts to drawings- encourage this! Continue to encourage your child to describe their creations and raise self-esteem by displaying pictures around the house. In nursery we will be experimenting with musical instruments to determine how to make loud and quiet sounds. Our role-play area will be a hospital to begin with but may change to a different community helper workplace depending on children's interests! Encourage imaginative play when possible, act out roles of community helpers with your child and use different props to help extend their language and understanding of their duties. Rhythm and rhyme is fundamental to a child's development- sing our songs and rhymes with your child, these can be found on your newsletter.

The World Around Us:

We hope to organise visitors for children to extend knowledge of people who help them this month (in line with PHA guidance). When out and about in your local area, talk about the people you see who help them particularly the fire service, doctors, nurses, dentists, postal workers, hairdressers and chefs! Make children aware of body parts and facial features- sing songs and simple games to reinforce this learning.

Physical Development and Movement:

Children will be provided with activities to develop their fine and gross motor skills daily during outdoor or indoor play. Clothes pegs can be a useful household item to use to develop fine motor development- challenge children to pinch beads/pasta/pompoms with these! We will be doing a lot of creative dance and performing simple movement skills outdoors and during PE, play music for your child and encourage them to move to different rhythms and beats!