

Personal, Social and Emotional Development:



- Encourage your child to **pour** their own drink, **butter** their own toast/bread and become more independent at meal times e.g. **setting** the table or helping to **clear** away the dishes.
- **Emotions** are very important and we need to know how to express ourselves in different ways (**happy/sad/angry**). Your children can try the 'cut & stick' **emotions** activity on the Home Learning tab of the website. Play is a natural stress reliever and increases happiness in children. Children often work out their anxiety and fears through play. More information on the value of different types of play is on GRTL tab of SNS website. **'I need to play'** document.

Early Mathematical Experiences:



- Introduce the mathematical concept of **size** to your child (*small, medium or middle size, large/big*). Ask your child to line members of your family or their toys, according to their size. You can progress to using items around your home e.g. clothing, food, stationery, etc.
- **Weight** - Encourage your child to predict which items from your house are heavy/light and encourage your child to lift and compare weight of items e.g. tins of paint vs. tins of food, sugar vs bread, etc.

World Around Us:



- Plant a **broad bean** with your child. Please see **page 3** on how to grow a broad bean. It is very simple, and your child will love it!
- Our theme in February is **Fairy Tales** and we love building castles! We use junk art materials to join things together. You can use items such as cereal boxes, toilet roll tubes, sellotape, aluminium foil, wrapping paper..... This is great for developing problem-solving, prediction skills and fine motor skills. **Send us a photo of your junk art model** 😊

**February
2021**



**Fairy
Tales
Home
Learning**

Language Development:



- We love **Fairy Tale** stories in our nursery. Have a look at the links below for familiar stories:
 - <https://www.youtubekids.com/watch?v=iR2MOQuLPZs&hl=en-GB>
 - <https://www.youtubekids.com/watch?v=fHqHVoo7-c0&hl=en-GB>
- **Role Play** - Enjoy an indoor or outdoor tea party. Encourage your child to generate ideas and you follow their lead. You can ask open-ended questions e.g. "Tell me...show me...what made you decide to...what would happen if..." to help develop their imagination.
- Please see **GRTL** tab on our website for information on **Sharing Books** and **Early Reading Tips**.

Physical Development & Movement:



- 'Bean' game - This is great fun in an **outdoor** space. Call out different types of beans e.g. runner bean, jelly bean, broad bean, and ask your child to follow the command (Instructions on **page 4**)
- Use an old cardboard box e.g. cereal or tissue box. Cut out different shapes and punch holes along the edges. Get a shoe lace, tie a knot at the end and then encourage your child to **thread** through all the holes.
- You can continue to develop throwing, catching, balance and co-ordination skills using the **beanbag** and **ball** that were sent home from nursery.



The Arts:



- **Valentine's Day** is very special to us. Cut out a heart shape for your child to decorate and give it to someone they love.
- Make **pancakes** with your child on Pancake Tuesday. Encourage your child to become involved in the process. Please see recipe opposite.
- **Music & Movement - Jump, Jiggle and Jive** - There are two links (sent through text messaging service). You could use shakers from your pack to enjoy some dancing!



Pancake Recipe

(Pancake Tuesday is on Tuesday 16th February 2021)

Ingredients

- 100g plain flour
- 2 large eggs
- 300ml milk
- 1 tbsp of sunflower or vegetable oil

Method

- 1** Sieve flour into a bowl and then add eggs, milk, oil and a pinch of salt. Whisk to a smooth batter.
- 2** Set a frying pan over a medium heat and carefully wipe it with some oiled kitchen roll.
- 3** When hot, cook your pancakes for 1 minute on each side until golden.
- 4** Serve with lemon, sugar, syrup or chocolate, and enjoy!

Songs You Can Sing with Your Child



When **Goldilocks** went to the house
of the bears,
Oh what did her two eyes see?
A bowl that was **big**,
A bowl that was **small**,
A bowl that was **tiny** and that was
all,
She counted them: one, two, three.

When Goldilocks went to the house
of the bears,
Oh what did her two eyes see?
A chair that was **big**,
A chair that was **small**,
A chair that was **tiny** and that was
all,
She counted them: one, two, three.

When Goldilocks went to the house
of the bears
Oh what did her two eyes see?
A bed that was **big**,
A bed that was **small**,
A bed that was **tiny** and that was all,
She counted them: one, two, three.

When Goldilocks went to the house
of the bears
Oh what did her two eyes see?
A bear that was **big**,
A bear that was **small**,
A bear that was **tiny** and that was
all,
They growled at her: grr, grr grr!

Planting a Broad Bean



Items you will need:

- A glass – drinking glass or a jam jar without the lid
- Cotton wool (6 balls max)
- Broad bean seed
- Daylight
- Water

Method:

- 1** Put cotton wool into the glass jar.
- 2** Place bean into the glass jar nestled at the side so that you are able to see root growth.
- 3** Ensure cotton wool is moist by watering regularly.
- 4** Keep jar near sunlight.



Other Useful Links/Ideas:



NI Forest School Ideas

www.forestschoolawards.org

1 Woodland Potions (on Home Learning tab)

Please continue to view our '**Home Learning**' and '**GRTL**' tabs on our website for additional information.

<https://www.shaftesburynursery.co.uk>

This month we have added information on:

- ✓ Help your child develop independence when getting dressed
- ✓ I Need to Play
- ✓ Screen Time
- ✓ What Are Gross Motor Skills?

Please email your child's teacher with any photos or videos of your child engaging in activities.



Bean Game



This game can be done anywhere in your home or an outdoor space. Playing outside, where there is space to run will provide your child with freedom and a chance to explore.

Children will also develop their listening skills as well as physical skills.

Call out different names of beans and your child will complete an action. See below for commands and actions:

Jumping Bean – Jumping around the room.

Runner Bean – Run around the room or run on the spot.

Broad Bean – Walk around the room taking as large strides as possible or stretch out in a star shape.

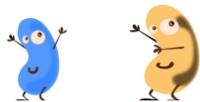
Baked Bean – Lay on the floor in a star shape until the next command is given.

Jelly Bean – Wobble like jelly whilst moving around the room.

Chilli Bean – Shiver and shake.

Frozen Bean – Stand still.

Bean Sprouts – Stand on tiptoes and make yourself as tall as possible.



Sensory Play with Rainbow Coloured Rice

What you need:

- One cup of long grain white rice
- ½ teaspoon of vinegar
- Food colouring
- Food storage container with lid

Method:

1. Pour a cup of rice into the container, then swirl a generous drop of food colouring through the rice, using a fork.
2. Add vinegar.
3. Shake the container.

