



Railway Street Nursery

April Topic Information

Topics

During April our theme will be Fairy Tales and Nursery Rhymes, we will also be working on all the colours of the rainbow and our shape will be the diamond.

Pro Social Behaviour

At this stage in the year the children are very familiar with each other and with the staff. We will work hard to ensure that play continues to be settled and productive.

INDEPENDENCE

We are now moving on to the children using their name cards without the support of the symbol. At snack time the children will be required to put their dishes in the dishwasher. At dinner time the children will be required to find their placemat at the table without the support of their symbol.

SAND

At the sand trays the children will work on developing their imaginative play skills and reinforce work done on our fairy tale and nursery rhyme theme as they play with spiders and the 3 little pigs. Staff will take the opportunity to work on The World Around Us as they add equipment and resources from the local environment to stimulate play such as sticks, straw, bricks. Staff will continue to support the children as they further develop their personal, social and emotional skills as they are helped to share, take turns, consider others, negotiate, problem solve and co-operate with others.

Water

We will be working on developing experience of frogs and life cycles as the children recreate pond dipping and frogs at the water tray. Staff will also be encouraging scientific skills as the children observe colour changes and learn about absorption.

CREATIVE AND AESTHETIC AREAS

The children will have the opportunity to further extend their colour mixing skills as they work to make the colours of the rainbow. We will also support the children as they further develop their design skills and their spatial awareness skills as they work at the junk art area. Staff will focus on the use of stories to support creative skills i.e. Rainbow Fish, How to Make a Rainbow.

MALLEABLE MATERIALS

At the dough areas staff will further expand the children's colour recognition skills. The children will also be able to engage and work on their observation skills as colour is mixed and added dough. The children will also work on their fine manipulative skills, particularly pushing, pinching, squeezing and rolling.

Role Play and House Corner

I am sure the parents will be delighted to learn that the children will be working on spring cleaning, washing and ironing in the home corner! This will allow them the chance to play co-operatively with other, to project into themselves into a role, to encourage them to look after their home environment and to build appropriate vocabulary. Outdoors we will be focusing on re-telling and re-enacting the story of Little Red Riding Hood as the children take on respective roles from the story.

FLOOR PLAY

Work in this area will evolve around sharing and playing cooperatively together as the children work with various types of brick. It is fantastic to see how far the children have progressed in this area but any work you can do at home with the children on cooperating would be valuable. Staff will also be using The Three Billy Goats Gruff to work on the children's concept of size. We will also be encouraging the children to work steadily towards achieving their planned goals as they build and construct.

Work in this area will focus on our animal theme and the children will be working on developing the concept of pairs as they play with Noah's Ark.

SMALL IMAGINATIVE PLAY

This month the children will work on their problem solving skills when working with the wooden castle. Play with fairytale characters e.g. The 3 Billy Goats will give children further opportunity to enhance their imagination and story-telling skills.

Language and Literacy

This month we will focus on the re-telling of familiar rhymes, songs and stories with confidence. We will also be working with the children this month extending and developing their listening skills.

MATHS AREA

Through a variety of activities such as sorting activities, mathematical language association kits the children will be encouraged to reinforce and extend their positional vocabulary. A variety of equipment from birthday cakes to gingerbread men will help consolidate their counting, matching and sorting skills. We will also work on size, shape and number.

Mark Making

Staff will be working hard in this area to help the children transfer their thoughts to a written form as they make books. Finer felt tip pens will encourage the further development of the children's tripod grip and their control of the pen.

CONSTRUCTION

During April we plan to focus on spatial awareness and spatial awareness using waffle shapes and we will extend the children's thinking by involving them in discussions on how to design, build and add ramps etc to the car track. We will also develop positional awareness as we think of how we travel e.g. over, under, through. As we use resources we will experiment how to fit them together which will support fine manipulative skills also.

OUTDOOR

The emphasis outdoors is very much on cooperation this month and the children will use the large parachute working as a team. Staff will be supporting the children as they become more imaginative in their outdoor play scenarios at Grandma's House. As the children climb we will be working specifically on self-confidence, direction and coordination. This month will also see the children working with our simple Viaduct system.