

HOME LEARNING IDEAS FROM

GLOUCESTER NURSERY SCHOOL

Dear Parents/carers,

We have collected some ideas together that you and your child can do together at home. We plan to produce home learning ideas every week and these will be sent to you via Parentmail. All children are unique. It is important for you to consider what your child is interested in and able to. If you have any queries or find that you need any further ideas please do not hesitate to contact me: head@gloucester.northants-ecl.gov.uk

The most important factors are for adults to spend quality time with their children whether that is inside or out. What do we mean by quality time? Quality time is adults model play, copying children's' play and giving the children appropriate language whether that is relating to colour, size, number. Questioning is also important - asking questions that begin with What Where How and also be interested in what they are doing and telling you as well as thought provoking questions 'I wonder what would happen if.' Remember young children have short concentration spans and need interesting meaningful activities to do. Please do not expect your child to stay at activities for a long amount of time.

We continue to miss all the children and families and would love to hear any feedback from you. Please contact us via e-mail: head@gloucester.northants-ecl.gov.uk. Please send us some photographs of what the children have been doing at home and we can include them in our home learning pack. If photographs are sent via Tapestry we can incorporate them in our home learning pack but please do not send photographs of identified children. Family Workers are unable to respond individually to your comments due to reduced staffing numbers.

We do plan to make some videos of staff telling stories, making things or even cooking with the children at the nursery. This will also help the connection between nursery life and home life. Once settled at nursery, members of staff will phone you and talk to your child for a quick 'catch up.'

Please visit our Facebook page as we are regularly posting links to fun and educational activities on line.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you have safeguarding concerns please contact either myself - head@gloucester.northants-ecl.gov.uk; phone MASH 0300 126 1000 Option 1 or if you feel in immediate danger the Police 999.

May we take this opportunity to wish all the children who had a Birthday over the Christmas holidays -Buddy, Estelle, Grace and Jenson, a belated "Happy Birthday", we hope you had a lovely day.

Keep safe and best wishes

Julia and the team at Gloucester Nursery School

USEFUL WEBSITES:

Parent Information: remember to keep children safe Keeping under 5's safe online - Childnet Internet

www.youtube.com/user/gonoodle - fun dancing/moving game

www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies - have loads of games

www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga

www.youtube.com/user/natashalamb - beginner sign language for children

www.crickweb.co.uk - has an early years page with 16 free games

www.literacytrust.org.uk - has a birth to 4 page family zone with apps to download

Audible are doing free kids books while schools are closed - stories.audible.com

www.phonicsplay.co.uk has free games but the subscribed activities are free while school is closed. The Username is March20 and password is hoe

www.letter-and-sounds.com has downloadable resources

www.twinkl.co.uk has free resources to print off

Fun ideas to do with 2, 3 and 4 year olds

MOONDUST - You can both make it in 5 minutes

You will need:

- 1kg flour
- 200ml vegetable oil

Directions:

- Tip the flour into a bowl and pour in the oil.
- Mix with your hands, rubbing the mixture between your fingertips, as if you're making a crumble topping. It's ready when, after 3 to 5 minutes, the mixture sticks together when squeezed.



Heuristic Play

Give your child a basket/box of everyday household items to investigate. You can include

- Spoon/metal or wooden
- Egg cups/metal or wooden
- Soft blanket/scarf
- Large shells
- Pumice stone
- Large cork
- Tins/Boxes with lids
- Whisks



Benefits/learning for your child

- Encourage cognitive development working out how things work/fit together
- Develop fine motor skills
- Develop hand-eye co-ordination
- Helps children make choices
- Sustains children's natural curiosity
- Become engaged for long periods so they are learning to explore without adult direction.



Dance dance dance.....

Find some ribbon and dance to your favourite music

Can you make the ribbon go up and down, side to side, in a circle?



Learn a new song and send us your performance on Tapestry.

3 and 4 Year Olds - Things to do

Personal and Social and Emotional Development

Developing self-help skills and independence - practice doing up zips and buttons; putting clothes on in the morning and taking them off before bed; taking shoes and socks off and putting them on

Reading and Writing

Share books with your child – ask them questions about the story, can they retell simple stories, talk about the author, characters, illustrations (use these words because the children have heard them at the nursery)

Talk about letters in the alphabet see website:
www.letter-and-sounds.com

Play I spy

Encourage your child to write their name. Some children could even write their surname. Adults need to provide examples for children to initially copy



Numbers and Counting

Counting objects 1 to 10; 1 to 20

Counting backwards from 5 or 10

Counting in 10's Eg 10, 20, 30, 40

Recognising numbers in books, in the environment - 1 to 5; 1 to 10; 1 to 20, 20+

Writing numbers - Adult model - children copy

Play musical statues

Encourage your child to move in different ways - slithering like a snake, jumping high like a kangaroo, stomp like an elephant etc

Practice pedalling on a tricycle, balancing on a two wheeler bike or pedalling on a two wheeler bike

Jumping: Can you jump over garden canes, can you do long jumps, star jumps? Challenge the family

Make a sandwich - 3 & 4 year olds



Mummy or Daddy will watch you spread the butter and cut the sandwich in half. Make a tally - ask all the people in your family what their favourite filling is. Can you write a list of what you used? What does butter begin with? What does tomato begin with? Can you spell eg jam?

Fizzy Lava Lamp



Instructions:

- Open the jar and pour the sunflower oil into the jar to about halfway
- Add some drops of food colouring into the oil
- Top it up with water
- Switch on your torch and put it behind the jar

Kim's game:

This is to develop child's concentration and memory

- Select 4/5 familiar items.
- Give your child 10 seconds to remember them.
- They close their eyes and you hide 1 or 2.
- They have to guess what you have taken away.



Can you build a model from building blocks, Duplo, Lego, Mega Blocks or any other building material you may have at home?

Pretend you are a detective ...3 & 4 year olds

Have a look around your house can you find any shapes? Can you name them?
On a piece of paper draw the shapes you have spotted. Do you notice any shapes that look like something else e.g. a cereal box
Can you spot any 3D shapes? Eg cylinder, cube, sphere, pyramid

Can you create a character from your favourite story? You could: paint; draw and colour; use recycling to create a model; use play dough; glueing and sticking.
Use Lego or duplo, or other construction to create a model. Once you have created your character can you read the story with your grown up? Or can you tell your grown up all about your character?

- What is your character's name? Can you write it?
- Where does your character live?
- What does your character like to do?
- Does your character have friends? What are their names?
- What is your characters favourite food?



Play shops at home with adults:

- Find some items to sell (tins, toys etc)
- Write prices for the items together
- Encourage the adult and child to take on the role of customer and shopkeeper. Use real money (1ps)
- Ask your child to give you different amounts of money. Pose different problems: If the orange is 2p and the banana is 1p how much does it cost altogether? Give your child the incorrect money and they have to give you change?