



Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow, the last term already. Where has the time gone? Soon some children will be in Year 1, some will be in reception full time, and some will become the big nursery children! This all means we have lots of busy jobs to get done. Can you help at home?

We would love it if you could work more closely with us in progressing your child's education. Below is a list of the things you could do to help your child with their education at home. We would love to see photos, a drawing or a quick note to say what your child can do. It all helps towards your child achieving their early learning goals at the end of reception. There are lots of areas in the Foundation Stage curriculum so we have selected just a few objectives for you to work on at home.

You are welcome to view your child's profile at any time. They are kept in a grey cupboard in the reception children's cloakroom. Please respect the privacy of others and only look at your own child's file.

Last term our topic was 'Percy the park keeper'. We made hedgehogs, fox and badger masks and standing rabbits. Lots of children enjoyed making boats and seeing if they floated or sank. They also enjoyed planting sunflower seeds and we found out that plants need sun and water to live. Although not too much water, otherwise they drown... as we found out! However, we can now name the parts of a flower and we also know how to keep healthy ourselves!

In Foundation Stage this term we are looking at "Summer". We will be looking at the beach and the history of the beach, transport, hot and cold places, what we need to pack for hot and cold holidays, and much, much more. Can you bring in some photos of your holiday? We can guess if it was in this country or another and also if it was hot or cold.

Nursery! Let's get busy! What can you do at home?

1. Encourage the children to ask family members, friends and neighbours about their holidays – where they went / how they travelled / the things they saw etc.
2. Talk with your children about the different seasons and the types of weather you can expect in each one
3. Point out where buses and trains are heading for [from the destination boards] and relate local places to something relevant to them - ie] Bolsover - that's where Grandma lives / Whittington Moor – that's where the football stadium is etc
4. Work together with your children on a sticker or colouring book with a 'holiday' theme

5. Count how many aeroplanes you can see in the sky and guess where they might be going
6. Make a summer sunshine picture
7. Plan a picnic with the children – take them to buy the food, prepare it together and plan some activities to do at your picnic spot

Reception... let's go exploring!

1. Look at travel brochures or internet sites and pick out places where you would like to holiday - talk about how you would travel there and how long the journey would take
2. Start saving 1p and 2p coins for a holiday 'treat' fund and regularly count the money together
3. Work together to make a list of the things you would need to take on holiday
4. Look at maps and atlas' and find some of the places you have already visited
5. Google a country you have visited - or would like to visit – and find out more about it - the national flag what foods grow there, what are the native animals etc.
6. Get the children to help you plan and prepare a summer barbecue - could they make invites or invent a special drink
7. Make a summer sculpture - use grass cuttings, flowers, twigs, deck chairs, anything!! But please take a photo

Please do not feel your child should be able to do everything and don't feel you have to do everything in one week. We will obviously be working on these in school too, it's just a nice way of including you in your child's education.

Thank you

The Foundation Stage Team