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Newsletter

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Home Learning support and ideas

Welcome to our newsletter. In this newsletter we will provide you with some ideas for learning at home, things to keep you entertained and website links to find out more, this information is not endorsed by us but have been recommended by staff and parents! We have given some ideas to support your child under each area of learning, this is not exhaustive, but just gives a few ideas for each.. These are not compulsory, we are offering ideas if you want them because you are stuck for things to do and for some understanding of the curriculum, the main priority is to stay safe, follow the government rules and enjoy learning together. Family time is an important part in your child's development.

If you need to contact us during the closure, please email our address above as this will be checked intermittently. Young minds have produced an article about talking to children about coronavirus. <https://youngminds.org.uk/blog/talking-to-your-child-about-coronavirus/>

If you would like to join the closed facebook page you could share your own ideas with each other and keep in touch.

Working in Partnership with Parents - PLAYDOUGH

Playdough has a wide array of developmental, learning and sensory benefits for children. This is the reason it is available each session. Some of the benefits of play dough are

- Enhances fine motor skills
- Improves pre writing skills and develops hand-eye coordination
- Promotes creativity and imagination
- Has a calming effect
- Builds social skills and language
- Increases curiosity and knowledge

As this is an activity we have out all the time, we make our own playdough, and the beauty of this is that if you need to vary the recipe for allergy sufferers, ie no gluten, you can. Plus, it means it is fresh each week.

Therefore if you would like to make your own, with your child, we are attaching a recipe for you.

Not only will this be a wonderful opportunity to do something together, promote maths skills with measuring, promote science skills but also gives you a wonderful versatile, tactile object at the end, and where your home learning can continue.



Home Made Playdough

- 2 cups self raising flour
- 1 cup salt
- 2 cups water
- 2 tablespoons oil
- 2 tablespoons tartar

(can be coloured with powder paint – added to flour. Or food colouring – added to the water)

Mix together and cook over medium heat, stirring all the time until it comes away from the side into one lump.

Remove from heat and knead.

Store in an airtight container in a cool place.

Personal Social Emotional Development



A few ideas to support PSED –
Make a facial expression game to promote the language of feelings
Give your child tasks to help out around the home.
Play games and encourage turn taking.
Play dressing up

Communication and Language



Sing songs together and make up silly songs
Play a listening game, sit with your eyes shut, in house or garden and name 5 things you can hear
Play 'Simon says' taking turns to be 'Simon'
Play 'I spy' to name objects – could use colours, ie 'I spy something coloured Red'

Physical Development

Try Joe Wicks 9am PE session - <https://www.youtube.com/thebodycoachtv>
Create your own obstacle course
Take part in a yoga session - <https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga>
Sing action songs and join in – head shoulders knees and toes, if your happy and you know, etc.
Let your child paint on walls with water and brushes
Encourage your child to dress themselves
Play the bean game –

Magic Beans

You will need - Whole class, large space.

Areas of Learning
Language
Literacy
Communication
Physical Development

Actions

 Broad beans Stand with legs apart and arms out to the side.	 Stick beans Stand tall with arms at sides.	 Baked beans Sit down with feet off the ground.
 Runner beans Run around.	 Jumping beans Jump.	 Frozen beans Freeze (stay still)
 Chilli beans Shiver.	 Jelly beans Wobble.	 Magic beans Run around (avoid getting caught)

What you do
After a warm - up session, introduce the game "Magic Beans" and explain/demonstrate the different actions. When you shout "Magic beans" you have to catch two children and they become your helpers. The game continues until there's one boy and girl left.

When your child has taken part in physical activities see if they can notice the effect on their bodies – ie feeling hot, out of breath, heart beating fast..

Literacy



Sharing a book with a child is fun - it's a time for closeness, laughing and talking together. It can also give children a flying start in life and help them become lifelong readers. You can find free and purchasable books online, here are a few sites -

www.audible.co.uk, www.amazon.co.uk, www.allyoucanbooks.com, [Apple store](http://Apple.com)

Story telling Saturday at 11.30 - - <https://facebook.com/events/s/free-online-storytime/195054031775454/?ti=cl>

Make up stories together

Read books and act out – goldilocks and 3 bears, going on a bear hunt

Encourage writing, drawing, colouring, making marks in sand, handling playdough, etc....

Maths



Building with Lego, or any other construction

Counting any objects, stairs, jumps

Draw numbers on stones and collect items to match number and quantity (ie one leaf, two twigs)

Sing counting rhymes - one, two buckle my shoe, 5 little ducks, 3 little monkeys. Etc..

Look at shapes of objects

Understanding of the world



Explore the garden, look, smell, touch and describe what you see

Create a pretend aeroplane and talk about places to go and visit and holidays you've been on or would like to go on

Look out the window each day and discuss the weather, maybe create a weather chart

Collect items and see if they sink or float discuss why

Play with small world together (peppa pig, dinosaurs, paw patrol), build up stories

Expressive Arts and Design



Listen to music and dance, copy each other, make up funny moves

Sing nursery rhymes and make up actions

Play with instruments

Make collages with things found in the garden or material in house

Talk about the texture of items.

Mental Health

During this difficult and uncertain time you may be concerned about your own or your child's mental health. The links below provide good advice for children and adults who have mental health concerns.

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk> – tips and advice for all ages

<https://www.kooth.com/> - free online support and counselling for young people

<https://youngminds.org.uk/> - free 24/7 support across the UK for young people experiencing a mental health crisis.

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/for-children-and-young-people/> - free advice and guidance for children and adults experiencing mental health illness

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-51873799>- this provides you with some ideas of how to manage your mental health especially in the coming weeks

These links provide accurate and professional advice on the corona virus;

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> - NHS advice on coping with the coronavirus

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public> - coronavirus information

<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses> - coronavirus information

These links provide ideas on how you can look out for each other;

Research suggests that being kind to others is an important means of developing and maintaining positive mental health

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-51933618> - ideas about keeping in touch with elderly relatives

This link provides advice on how families can cope with self-isolation;

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-51936286>

Free Daily resources for Children

PE with **Joe Wicks** on YouTube – **Week days at 9am** – but you can visit any time on youtube to view the workout

Wildlife With with **Steve Backshall** on Facebook – **Every day at 9.30** for answering all your wildlife, biology, conservation, geography and exploration questions.

Science with **Maddie Moate** on YouTube – **Weekdays at 11am**. Maddie & Greg chat about science and nature!

Dance with **Oti Mabuse** on Facebook – **Every day at 11.30am** but children can view class at any time.

Maths with **Carol Vorderman** – Free access to her maths website – www.mathsfactor.com

Music with **Myleene Klass** on YouTube – **twice a week**. Next one on Friday 27th at 10am, but can be viewed at any time.

Storytime with **David Walliams** – Free story **everyday at 11am** – www.worldofdavidwalliams.com.

Chase The Rainbow!

Across the country pictures of rainbows have started springing up in peoples windows.

The idea is to cheer people up and help maintain morale for children (and families) in these difficult times.

A few have been popping up in Blackmore and surrounding areas. You too can join this campaign!

You can choose where and how you paint, draw, colour your rainbow, be adventurous!

On paper or stones, with paint, pens, tissue paper, crayons, etc...

Then put it in your window.. It's that simple.

Here's a few examples



Online resources

Please find below some online sites that can help with learning

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/>

<https://jr.brainpop.com/>

<https://learn.khanacademy.org/khan-academy-kids/>

<https://www.education.com/games/preschool/>

<https://funlearningforkids.com/free-printables/>

<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/25-playful-learning-preschool-activities/>

<https://kidsactivitiesblog.com/135609/>