

PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

In this unit, we explore building with a wider range of materials, including larger objects such as palettes and large cardboard boxes in the outdoor provision.

With malleable resources, children explore the texture of cloud dough and create different shapes using cutters. We learn to make small controlled movements with a range of tools. We use geoboards, tweezers, ice trays and tools as we explore frozen objects.

We use our bodies and our imagination to navigate a space obstacle course using our jet packs, as well as using slow controlled movements to walk on the moon. We learn

UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD

We explore the differences in the world at night compared to during the day, and discover and describe what is happening in the world while we are sleeping. By learning about the moon landing, we explore significant people and events from the past. We use a globe or map to talk about cold places, and the animals that live there. We look at and describe animals that can camouflage themselves, and name and describe the lives and habitats of nocturnal animals.

COMMUNICATION AND LANGUAGE

We describe our bedtime routines, asking questions about day and night. Children describe nocturnal animals, follow instruction games such as 'Captain Spaceship', discuss and ask questions about people who work at night, such as for the emergency services. We describe our own experiences and opinions about winter, and will share non-fiction facts that we think are interesting. We describe story lines linked to our Literacy texts, and tell stories based on 'snowy day' images.

EXPRESSIVE ART AND DESIGN

Children use a growing range of tools and materials to represent the night sky, the moon, patterns of stars and the shapes of planets. By mixing colours, children explore light and dark, creating patterns using a range of materials. They respond to images of space and to different pieces of music, including 'The Planets Suite' by Gustav Holst. They explore colours, textiles and materials used to represent ice, and work collaboratively to create an ice den.



PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Children learn about the importance of a good night's sleep, and why we need regular routines. Healthy lifestyles are explored, including learning why and how we clean our teeth. In order to maintain two channels of attention, when engaging in physical development activities, children also practice listening to teachers and following instructions simultaneously, as well as strategies for self-regulating when we do not like what we are asked to do. We describe and identify appropriate winter clothing and help one another get prepared to go outside on a cold day.

MATHS

Children continue to explore Maths in the environment through objects and concepts linked to our curriculum vocabulary and themes. In our daily lessons, children:

- Count beyond 10
- Combine two groups
- Explore the composition of numbers to 10
- Compare mass
- Pair objects

LITERACY

We read Oliver Jeffers' 'How to Catch a Star' as well as a non-fiction text about penguins. We create story maps, retell stories orally, and develop skills and strategies to build and write our own sentences. We read and spell selected key phonetically decodable vocabulary as well as non-decodable 'red' words..

In the spring term, we continue to focus on using the Message Centre to inspire language and communication, while increasing the amount of prompts available to move children from mark making to independent writing.

