



Communication, Language & Literacy

"Once upon a time..." - we will be reading different traditional tales to develop our story language. Together, we will be making story maps to show the sequence of events in a story and acting these out using props and puppets. In our role play we will be retelling these stories and including familiar repetitive refrains such as "not by the hair on my chinny chin chin." Our literacy skills will be developed by writing about what happens at the beginning, middle and end of a story. Using a magic mirror, (and our imaginations!) we will be making up our own questions to ask each other. Finally we will be writing our own stories using all of our knowledge of traditional tales.



Traditional tales and Superheroes



Mathematics

Looking at the story of the three little pigs, we will explore the concept of dividing by equally sharing 'bricks' for their houses. We will further develop our knowledge of sharing by halving using practical objects such as fruit. Through the use of numicon we will be exploring doubling and turning these into equations. Eg, the double of 2 is 4, 2+2=4. During our surprise 'bake off' we will be measuring and weighing the ingredients that we need. We will be noticing newts looking out for our Kung Fu maths symbols in jumbled up maths problems and continuing to practise writing our 'teen' numbers correctly making sure that they are not back to front.

BASICS & Characteristics of Learning

This half term we will be focussing on the following two characteristics:



- Choosing ways to do things - planning, making decisions about how to approach a task, solve a problem and reach a goal.
- Being involved and concentrating - paying attention to details.

Building Learning Power

Our learning power will be developed by being **Questioning Queen Bees** and learning to ask questions with different openers such as who, what, where, when, how and why. We will also be **Imaginative Iguanas** by using our imagination to make up our own stories.

Questioning



Be a Questioning Queen Bee

Imagining



Be an Imagining Iguana

Expressive Arts & Design

We will be transforming our role play area into a fantasy world. We will be making a range of props and decorative backdrops which are inspired by traditional tales. In our dance lessons, we will be learning to use listening ears to move our bodies in different ways. We will be baking this half term... but it's a surprise so do not tell the children!



Personal, Social & Emotional

Goodies and baddies - who are they? We will be looking at characters from different tales and discussing their features. We will be also be looking at different superhero powers and coming up with our own positive characteristics. We will continue to develop our social skills through circle time, songs, stories and drama.



Physical Development

We will be focusing on writing words and simple sentences, ensuring that we are forming our letters correctly.



In preparation for Sports Day, we will be practising a range of sports activities such as the egg and spoon race, javelin throw and balancing. Making the most of the outdoor area, we will be working our way through a number of obstacle courses to develop our gross motor skills.

Understanding the World

Just like Jack, we will be growing our own bean-stalks and making observations on their progress.



We will be developing our technology skills by exploring programmable robots. We will use direction vocabulary to manoeuvre the robot around a street map.



Please remember:

Phonic homework is given out every Thursday. Please work every day with your child to practise recently taught phonic sounds and words.

Reading books are given out every Thursday. Please read every day at home. Bring your completed reading record into school on Tuesday with your reading and library books.

A weekly Newsletter is sent out every Friday. At the bottom of each newsletter we provide a suggested home activity. Please make an effort to do this with your child over the weekend.

Our PE day is Friday. The children should come to school wearing their P.E Kit on this day.



Montpelier Primary School

The Big Talk



What is BIG Talk?

Talk happens all the time in Reception. We model different types of talk throughout the day. We have a weekly carpet session where we focus on developing the children's speaking and listening skills.

1. In Big Talk the children sit with their learning partner.
2. We practise looking, listening and speaking to our partners.
3. We introduce and explore new vocabulary.
4. We allow plenty of time for children to talk and discuss and then share ideas with the class.

What else can we do?

- Talk, talk, talk! Give your child a rich language experience by making use of everyday situations and sharing stories, rhymes and poems.
- Be a good language model: speak to your child in the language that you feel most comfortable with. It is the quality of interaction that is important, it doesn't matter which language you use.
- When reading with your child at home encourage them to use picture clues to work out new words. Talk about the what's happening in the pictures and discuss what might happen at the end.
- Play dough, small construction, threading and painting, all these will help to develop strong finger muscles.
- When your out and about see what numbers are around in your environment for e.g. on door and buses.
- Try make it part of your daily routine.
- Remember 5 minutes is better than a 15 minute slog!

Key websites:

- ⇒ <http://www.ictgames.com/>
- ⇒ <http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/>
- ⇒ <http://www.starfall.com/>
- ⇒ http://www.familylearning.org.uk/phonics_games.html
- ⇒ <http://www.focusonphonics.co.uk/sound.htm>
- ⇒ <http://www.primarygames.com/math/grade/kindergarten-math-games.php>

