



## Summer Week 2 - Home Learning

Dear Squirrel class,

We hope that you are all well and enjoying the nice warm Spring weather.

We are enjoying our weekly phone calls with your families and it has been lovely to chat to some of you and hear about your holidays.

We are really missing seeing you and playing together in Nursery. We are looking forward to seeing you again and hearing about all of the things that you have been doing to keep yourselves busy.

When we are not in school and have done our school work, we are keeping very busy too. Mrs. Saraff has been doing lots of baking and Mrs. Millman has been knitting and sewing.

We are continuing our learning about caterpillars and butterflies this week and these are some activities that you can do at home.

### **Maths**

**Session 1-** Use toy building blocks or bricks such as Lego, Duplo or Megabloks (If you have them). Have a go at building different sized towers. Can you build a tower that is taller than a Teddy? Can you build a tower that is taller than you are?

**Session 2-** Following on from your tower building, investigate how you could make towers stronger. You could try making the tower wider. You could start with a stronger, wider base and then make the tower narrower as it gets higher.

**Session 3-** Try building towers with other things in your home. You could use boxes from cereals or other food. You could look in your recycling or borrow packets from the food cupboards. Can you make strong and tall towers? What makes a good tower?

**Session 4 -** Have a competition with someone else in your home. You could involve the whole family. Who can make the tallest tower? Who can make the strongest tower? Maybe you could build a tower strong enough to hold a toy figure.

**Session 5 –** Use the number cards that you made before the holiday. Can you remember the numbers? Have a go at writing some of the numbers. Remember to use the rhymes that we say in Nursery.

## **English and Physical development**

**Session 1-** Ask a grown up to help you to make some play dough. You can use the recipe below or look up another recipe to use ingredients that you have at home. The mixing (cool mixture) will get your hands and fingers warmed up and ready for other activities.

### **Play dough recipe**

2 cups plain flour, 2 tablespoons vegetable oil, ½ cup salt, up to 1½ cups hot water, food colouring (optional)

1. Mix the flour, salt and oil in a large bowl. Add the food colouring to the water and pour into the flour mixture.
2. Stir to form a sticky dough.
3. Allow the mixture to cool. Remove from the bowl and knead until it is no longer sticky. Add a little more flour, if needed.

If you want to keep your creations, this can be baked in a 250-degree oven for approximately an hour.

**Session 2-** Use the play dough that you made to make different shapes. Use the flat of your hand to roll a piece of dough forwards and backwards on a table. It will become a long, thin caterpillar shape. You could add features to the dough to make it into the caterpillar in the story. Can you use your hands and fingers to make the dough into the shapes of the food in the story?

**Session 3-** Play some catching games with someone in your family. You could try throwing and catching a balloon if you have one. These are nice and slow and a good size to begin with. Try catching a large ball with both hands. You could change how near you are to each other to make it easier or harder. You could include all of your family and make up throwing and catching games.

**Session 4-** Have a play bath or fill a sink with water and play with the water. Use plastic cups or containers of different sizes. Pouring the water into containers is good for developing motor skills. You could also develop maths skills by talking about the sizes of the containers and investigating which containers hold most water.

## **Phonics**

Please see separate information.

## **Reading**

This week, we are continuing with our focus on the story of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle.

**Session 1-** Read the story *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* again. As for last week's sessions, if you do not have a copy of the book, there are many versions on YouTube. Retell the story, using the pictures on each page to help you to remember. Try to use the words *first*, *next* and *then*, as you tell the story in order. Tell the story to someone else in your family. They could help you with the order by asking *What happened first?*, *What happened next?*, *What happened in the end?*

**Session 2-** Read or watch the story again and join in with the words when you can. Which is your favourite part of the story? Why? (Try to extend sentences by using the words *and*, *because* and *but*). Are there any parts of the story that you don't like? Do you think that it is a happy story?

**Session 3-** Go on a word and letter hunt in your home. There will be lots of words in books, but can you find any words in unusual places? Try looking in your fridge or in the garden. Are there any words or letters written there? Can you sound any of the letters or read any of the words? You could make a list in your blue book or on paper to show us what you found when we go back to school.

### **Wider Curriculum (Topic) The Very Hungry Caterpillar and other bugs**

#### **Understanding the World:**

Go on a bug hunt in your garden or just outside your home. Investigate different areas and see what you can find. Try looking under stones, amongst blades of grass or in the soil. If you have a pond or find a puddle, you might find some creatures near the water.

Look carefully at the bugs. Do you know what they are, or can you find out? Do they have legs and how many? Do they have wings? If you have a magnifying glass, use it to look at the creatures. What happens?

Remember to be careful if you touch or pick up the bugs and they should always be returned to where you found them.

#### **Listening and Attention:**

Read other stories about caterpillars, such as *Monkey Puzzle* or *Caterpillar Spring* and talk about the caterpillar life-cycle. (There are lots of stories on YouTube to add to the ones that you may have at home).

Try to use the words that you have learned while we have been reading caterpillar stories and finding out about caterpillars and butterflies. You could include vocabulary such as egg, lava, baby, adult, chrysalis or cocoon.

Sing lots of songs together. You could teach some of our favourites to your family. Use the words in our home learning section on the school website. Can you remember actions or make up some of your own?

**Arts and Design:**

Make a fingerprint caterpillar. If you have some paints at home, you can carefully dip your fingertip into the paint and print it onto paper or a page in your blue book. You could make your caterpillar all one colour, or you could make it a mix of colours. Can you make a rainbow caterpillar? Can you make a caterpillar in a repeated pattern? You could make caterpillars in different lengths and talk about which are longest or shortest.

When you have a play bath, take some 'instruments' into the water with you and see if you can create some beautiful bath time music. You could use spoons and pans from the kitchen to be noisy drums. You could put some water in empty bottles and create shakers.

**Reminder about other useful websites:**

Twinkl, YouTube, Phonicsplay

9 am - Jo Wicks, The Bodycoach, has his YouTube workout (Monday – Friday)

**Other recommendations:**

We recommend you keep some routine to your day so it won't be a shock on your return to school!

You could continue with our Nursery start to the day. Count how many people are in your home, sing the days of the week song and talk about the weather.

We hope that you enjoy your learning this week and can't wait to see what you have been doing at home. We will call you in the week to find out how things are going.

Love from Mrs. Millman and Mrs. Saraff