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| **Subject** | **What will my child be learning in Nursery? Topic: Why do leaves go crispy?** |
| **English (Literacy)** | **Talk for Writing-**. Your child is continuing to learn how to retell and reinvent a story. This half term, we are looking at The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We will begin by retelling this story as a class using our story map and thinking about actions with our bodies and expressions with our faces. The children will work towards retelling the story independently. Your child will also learn about the structure of a story (beginning, middle and end) and make predictions about what might happen next. We will also explore recount texts as we enjoy fruit tasting and think about how we can describe our experience. We will look at seasonal stories such as ‘Leaf man’ and use natural resources to help us to retell and represent these tales. As Christmas approaches, we will also enjoy lots of songs, rhymes and of course, the story of the Nativity. |
| **Communication and Language** | **Phonics -**Your child will continue to explore sounds in the environment and will think about how they can experiment with sounds and use them purposefully. Your child is also continuing to learn blending and segmenting skills which will support them as they move on to reading and writing independently. We will also be practising for our Christmas songs performance as we listen and follow instructions and learn lots of new words and songs. |
| **Mark making/writing** | Your children will continue to have lots of opportunities within the classroom to develop their fine motor skills. For example, using tweezers, threading, playdough. They are actively participating in creating story maps to represent objects and words during Talk for writing sessions and continue to have lots of daily opportunities for meaningful and purposeful writing around the nursery. For example, within the role play area, taking messages or making a list for Santa! |
| **Maths** | Your child will be learning to recognise the value of numbers to 10, whilst developing their one to one correspondence. Each day the children will continue taking part in a Maths Meeting where they will revise and be introduced to new concepts following our Inspire Maths program. **Shape, space and measure**-We will be talking about shapes in the environment as we explore our outdoor area and talk about what we can see. We will also make arrangements with shapes, using what we find to create seasonal pictures and patterns. |
| **Understanding the World** | **People & Communities** We have a busy half term ahead as we explore the community both at nursery and slightly further afield. We will celebrate Children in Need day to support children who are less fortunate and hope to engage with local charity Derek’ s Tree to support those closer to home. We will look at how Christmas is celebrated around the world.  **The World** We will look at how the natural environment changes over the season and hopefully find an answer to ‘Why do leaves go crispy?’  **Technology** We will use the Interactive Whiteboard to create some Christmas designs and will continue to engage with this resource to support our learning and curiosity. |
| **Expressive Arts and Design** | As we explore our new topic, we will think about how we can use seasonal materials to create and design. For e.g. we will use leaves to create a hedgehog and use fallen fruit from around our nursery grounds to print with. We will use our senses to explore seasonal resources and use prompts to help us to re-enact our Hungry Caterpillar tale in our theatre. We also have lots of lovely Christmas crafts planned! Of course, the children will also be practising for our festive performance! |
| **Personal, social and emotional development** | The children are continuing to develop positive relationships as their friendships grow. They will begin to take on monitor roles as the next half term progresses, helping them to recognise their value and importance within the nursery. They are certain to grow in confidence as they engage in new experiences, such as their first Christmas performance in front of their families! |
| **Physical development** | Your child will begin to put their listening skills to the test as they explore dance over the next half term. They will engage with a range of different musical styles as they think about how they can move their bodies to the sounds they hear. They will also use resources such as ribbons to support this and encourage the gross motor movements that are so important as children develop their early writing skills. |
| **Harrier Value** | Each half term, the children will explore one of our Harrier Values. This half term, our value is Respect. We will think about remembrance and how we can be considerate to each other. We also hope to support local Branston charity ‘Derek’s Tree’ as Christmas approaches. |
| **Subject** | **How you can support your child’s learning at home? Topic: Why do leaves go crispy?** |
| **English (Literacy)** | Please continue to read with your child every day. This will support their phonic knowledge and build a broad and rich vocabulary, which will support their reading comprehension. You can support them to think creatively about the stories they encounter by encouraging them to consider ‘What if…?’ as they reinvent and recreate favourite tales.  We would love your child to share their favourite stories with their friends at nursery! |
| **Communication and Language** | Encourage your child to experiment with sounds- can they make sound effects to go along with their favourite stories? You can practise blending skills with your child by gathering together a small group of simple objects and sounding out the word, allowing your child to blend the sounds together and pick the correct object (p-e-n, d-o-g). |
| **Mark making/writing** | Support your child to engage with meaningful mark making as they help you by ‘writing’ shopping lists or signing their Christmas cards. Talk to your child about their pictures and marks- what do they mean or represent to them?  Support your child to recognise their written name and to try and represent it on their work. Laminated name cards will come home soon to support you with this in the precursive script used in nursery. |
| **Maths** | To help your child with number recognition, you could put a number line in their bedroom and practise the numbers together in the morning whilst getting ready for school or before bedtime. To practise using fingers to represent numbers, you can sing simple number songs at home. For example, ‘5 Little Speckled Frogs’, ‘5 Little Monkeys’, ’10 Green Bottles’, ‘1,2,3,4,5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive’. If you are unsure of how the tune goes, just ask your child to teach it to you |
| **Understanding the World** | Perhaps you could enjoy a family nature walk? What can you see? Take a picture every week and look at the changes outside in your garden. Support your child to take pictures using your phone/camera or iPad and share it on Tapestry!  Think about how your family celebrates Christmas, if it does. If not, what other special events do you celebrate at home? |
| **Expressive Arts and Design** | Encourage your child to create and construct with the things they find in the natural environment. Support them to use their senses to think about how things feel, smell etc.  Do you have a favourite Christmas song or story? Support your child to share it on Tapestry! Don’t forget to join us for our Christmas craft morning in December! |
| **Personal, social and emotional development** | Encourage your child to take on little tasks at home to help to support their growing independence, such as setting the table. We also welcome your support in helping the children to learn the songs we will perform at Christmas so they are confident when the time comes- links to the songs will follow soon! |
| **Physical development** | Support ***gross motor skills*** -Ensure your children have the opportunity to take part in different physical activities such as catching and throwing balls or climbing at the park. You can further support your child’s understanding of their own body by talking about changes that they notice after exercising, for example, feeling hot, sweaty, thirsty or ‘out of breath’. Continue to give lots of opportunities to develop ***fine motor skills*** – using tools to create Christmas cards, wrapping presents, fastening buttons and zips. |
| **Harrier Value** | Respect- please share your examples of how your child demonstrates this value at home! |