



Early Years Unit - Nursery (2)

Please find enclosed a pack of ideas for activities you could work on **with your child** over the next few weeks.

In school we follow child-led learning and teaching in the moment to allow the children to learn through play and develop according to their own interests and individual stages of progress. The best thing you can do for your child whilst they are off school is to continue to help them learn through play by:

Everyday ideas:

- Playing with your child using open-ended toys like building blocks
- Reading a story every day and talking about it
- Cooking together e.g. making fairy cakes
- Arts and crafts activities
- Playing outside together in the garden if you have one
- Singing nursery rhymes together
- Singing number songs together
- Doing jigsaws and puzzles
- Limiting screen time and limiting tablet time

Please don't forget to check out our school website www.blaendulais-primary-school.i2bloggy.com where we will be uploading other resources and ideas for home learning activities, if the schools continue to be closed after the Easter break.

Best wishes

Early Years team

When playing with your child, or when doing the activities in the pack with them, some of the skills that your child is developing in school include the following. **NB please note all children develop at different rates, please don't worry if your child cannot do all of these yet:**

Some skills your child is developing:

Maths/Numeracy

- Counting 5 objects
- Rote counting/reciting numbers from 1 to 10 and from 10 to 1
- Recognise numbers 0 - 5 and start to compare and put in order
- Understand the concept of 'one more' and 'one less'
- Comparing objects by size, weight, capacity
- Sort and match groups of objects
- Copy simple patterns – visually and orally
- Use terms first, second, third, last

Language/Literacy

- Listen to stories and retell in own words
- Choose and 'read' books, turning pages, looking at text and pictures
- Talk about what might happen next in a story
- Experiment with mark-making and imitate writing in their play
- Start to hold a pencil using finger and thumb in pincer grip
- Engage in word play e.g. enjoy and identify rhymes
- Identify syllables in words (beats) and clap them out e.g. clap out own name
- Start to identify the sound at the start of words (e.g. mat starts with the sound "mm")
- Start to orally blend and segment sounds in words ("mm" "ah" "t" makes mat; mat is made up of "mm" "ah" "t")

Activities to Try at Home

Here are a selection of ideas and activities split into the different Areas of Learning that you can do to help your child work towards achieving their early learning goals.

Personal Social and Emotional Development

- Try playing some simple board or card games together or try working together to build a jigsaw puzzle.
- Encourage your child to talk about their friends and arrange opportunities to invite friends round for tea or meet up at a park for the children to play together.
- Encourage children to talk about their likes and dislikes in terms of activities they like and do not like to do. Encourage them to explain their thoughts and feelings.
- Encourage children to be independent but to ask for help when needed. Encourage them to talk to familiar adults and children about activities they would like to do.
- Discuss different feelings – try acting out different emotions for children to identify.
- Discuss plans and routines and encourage children to talk about their daily activities.

Communication and Language

- Initiate conversations with your child, ask questions and demonstrate how to be a good listener.
- Share rhymes, songs, books and stories. Talk about what is happening in the stories or rhymes. With a familiar rhyme or book, stop suddenly and ask your child to continue, or you could accidentally get the words 'wrong' and your child could correct you!
- When sharing stories together, talk about the story and the characters. Ask your child to explain events in stories.
- Model correct sentence structure and words – instead of over correcting your child, repeat words or sentences, e.g. if your child says "buyed an apple" say "Yes, you bought an apple."
- When you have a holiday, a day out or a trip somewhere, work together to create a record of the event, such as a photo, collection of objects or a drawing, which you can talk about later.
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- Talk about your children's interests and encourage them to learn and use new vocabulary.

Physical Development

- As a family, try some different active activities! You could try; dancing, playing football, going for walks, riding a bike or going swimming.
- Encourage children to try using different types of materials and simple tools. Provide playdough or salt dough to knead and make model, as well as beads to thread onto laces. You could also provide tools, such as child-safe scissors, paintbrushes, crayons, and child-safe knives and forks.
- Encourage your child to get dressed/undressed independently and manage their own personal hygiene (such as washing their hands and brushing their teeth).
- Encourage your child to talk about healthy food choices. Go shopping with your child and talk about healthy foods and why a balanced diet is important.

Literacy

- Share pleasure in reading with your child. Share books together and join a local library. Encourage your child to look at a range of different books such as, stories, poems, information books and comics. Talk about favourite stories and characters.
- Practise identifying letter sounds (phonics). Look for letters you see when you visit different places and demonstrate reading the words.
- Make word and letter sound cards for sounds or words your child finds tricky. Try saying them in funny voices to help practising them more fun!
- Encourage your child to explore writing using different materials such as pencils, chalk, crayons and pens. They could try writing letters into a tray of sand or flour using a finger or try painting letters onto a pavement using a paintbrush and water.
- Demonstrate different purposes for writing such as writing a shopping list, writing a greetings card or a postcard when on holiday. Encourage children to try writing for different purposes too and praise them for their efforts.

Mathematics

- Look for numbers when you visit different places. Talk about house numbers, car number plates, prices of goods in the supermarket, etc. Challenge children to identify the numbers and say which number is one more or one less than the ones they see.
- Play dice games with your child such as snakes and ladders.
- Talk about simple addition and subtraction in practical ways. Use toys or other items to demonstrate addition by counting on and subtraction by counting back.
- Look for 2D and 3D shapes around the house or when out and about and ask your child to describe them. Encourage the use of correct terms such as 'sides' and 'corners'. Build models or pictures using empty packaging or paper shapes and talk about the shapes used.
- Compare size, weight and capacity. Get your child using words like 'longer', 'shorter', 'taller', 'heavier', 'lighter', 'full' and 'empty'. Talk about things you see in the world around you, or create opportunities for comparison, perhaps by rolling playdough snakes ('Can you make a longer/shorter one?') or pouring water into different cups during bath time.

Understanding the World

- Talk about special events in your family, such as holidays, weddings, birthdays and celebrations. Maybe bring in a souvenir to show the class!
- Take a trip to a park and look at the plants, insects and animals.
- Explore different weather conditions and talk about seasonal changes in the world around you.
- Go on a technology treasure hunt at home! Talk to your child about how we make these things work and how to use them safely.
- Look at different types of technology when you're out and about. They could explore using a camera to take photos on days out too.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Try some different creative activities using a variety of different materials such as; making musical instrument models using empty packaging, collage activities to make pictures using wool or coloured paper and mix colours of paint to paint pictures.
- Encourage children to sing their favourite songs and listen to music.
- Try using some toys or make some puppets and create your own story!
- Try setting up a pretend shop, restaurant, hairdressers salon, workshop or classroom. Role play as customers and shopkeepers, etc. and create stories and scenes together.

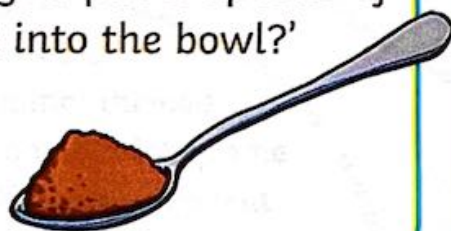
Maths: Counting Objects to 15

Home Learning Challenges



Encourage your child to help you when out shopping by counting and collecting objects to put into the basket, e.g. 'Can you get 2 apples?'

Support your child to help make simple recipes by counting amounts, e.g. 'Can you put 2 spoons of cocoa into the bowl?'



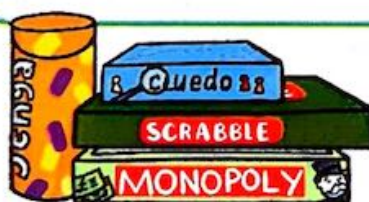
When playing with building bricks or small toys, encourage your child to count how many of each colour or size.



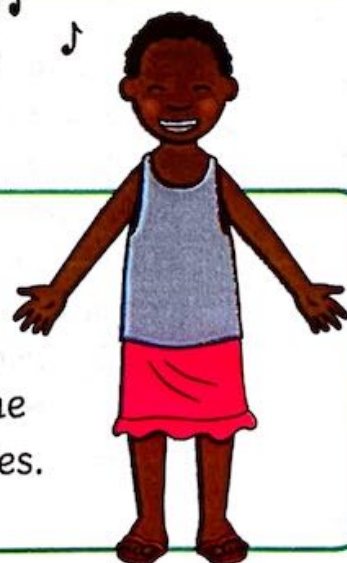
Read number-themed books and count sets of pictures, e.g. Goldilocks and the Three Bears – count the bears, bowls, and beds.



Play simple board games and encourage your child to count the spots shown on the dice and the number of spaces to move.



Sing number-themed counting rhymes and use your fingers or small props to help count the items, e.g. 10 Green Bottles.

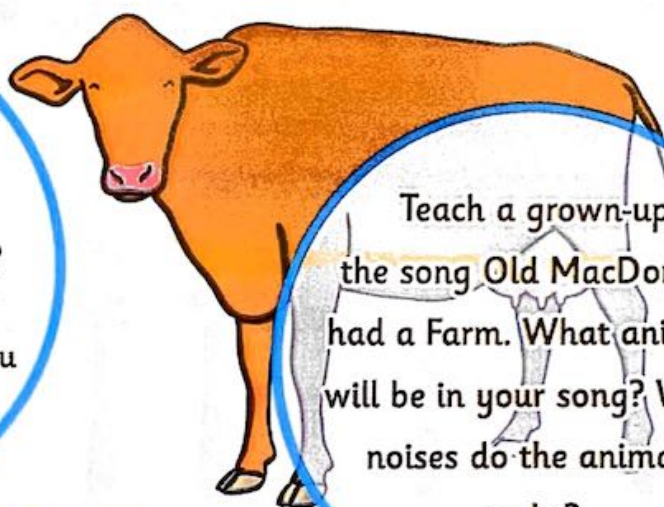


Voice Sounds

Home Learning Challenge

Use

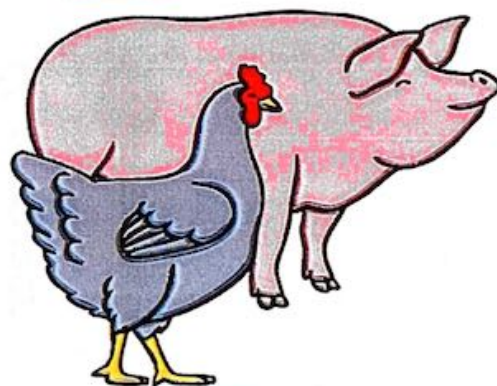
your voice to create some sound effects. Can you make a sound like a ticking clock or a doorbell? Listen to sounds you hear around your home – can you make a sound just like them?



Teach a grown-up the song Old MacDonald had a Farm. What animals will be in your song? What noises do the animals make?



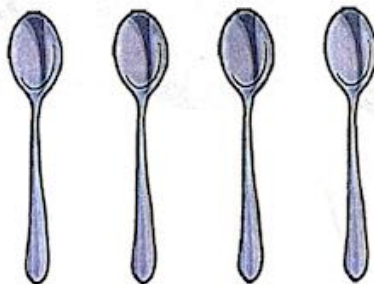
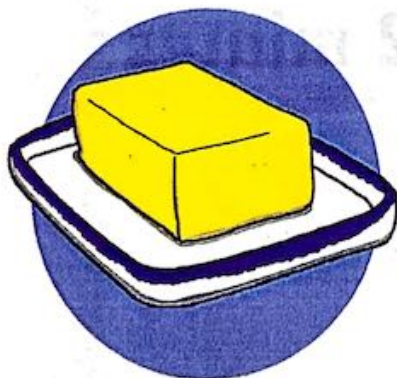
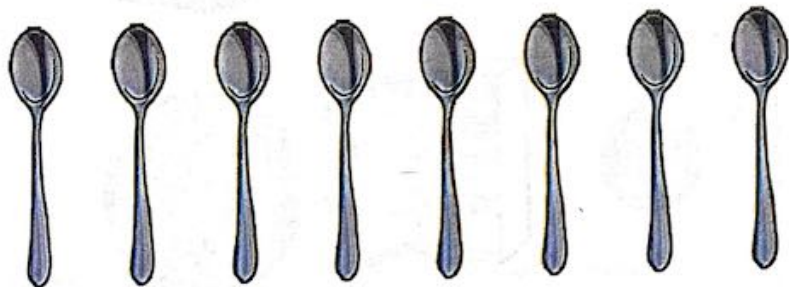
Play an animal themed guessing game. Make some sound effects for different animal noises and encourage someone to guess what animal sound you were making. You could 'meow' like a cat, 'woof' like a dog or 'hissss' like a snake. What other animal sounds can you make?



Try making some different voice sounds to show different feelings and emotions e.g. 'oh!' when surprised, 'mmm' when eating something yummy and 'sshh' when trying to be quiet!



Tablespoon Biscuit Recipe



1



2



3



30 minutes

4



5



6



12 minutes

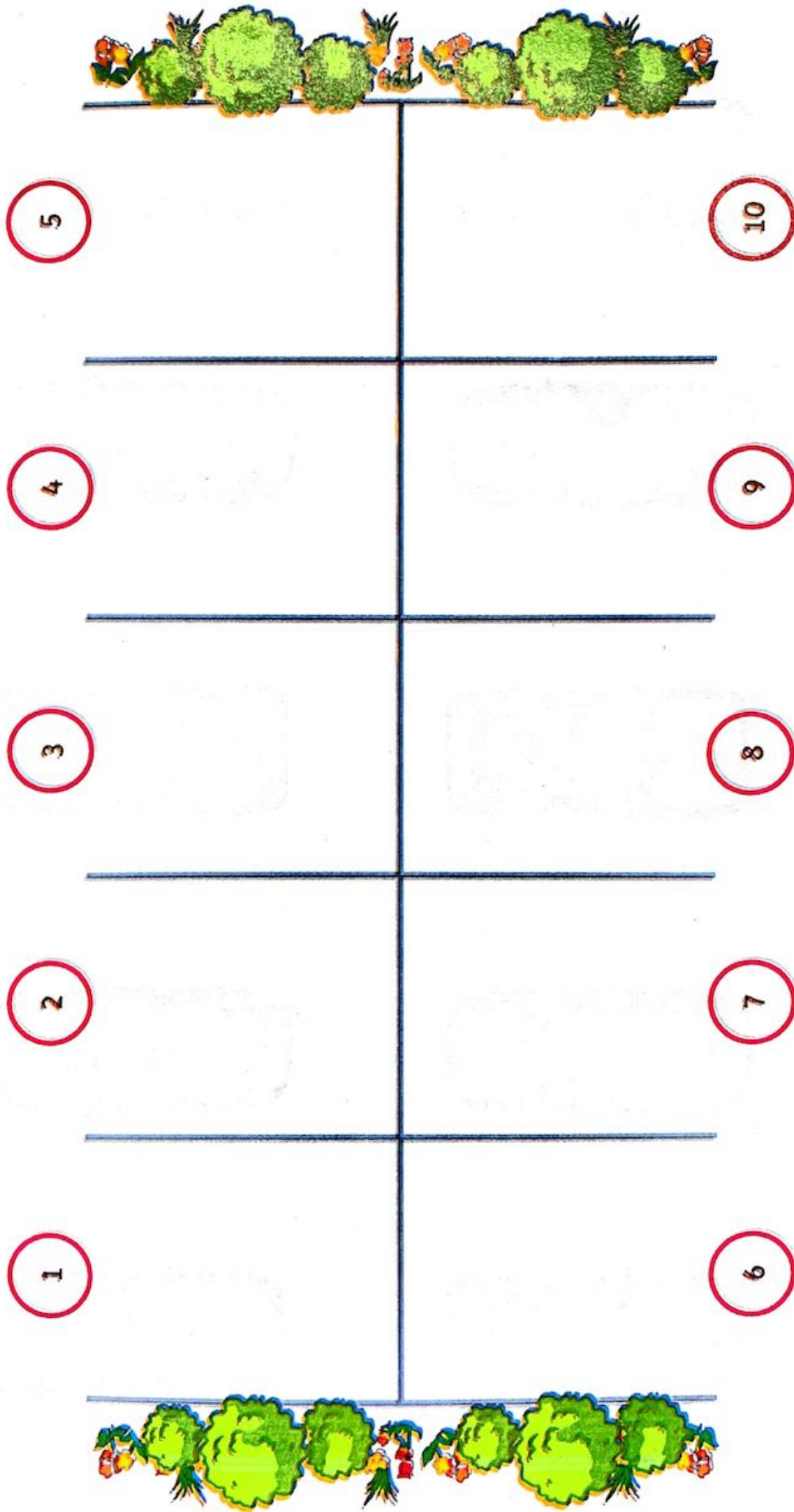
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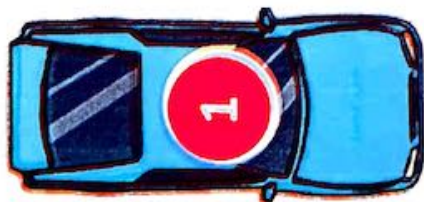
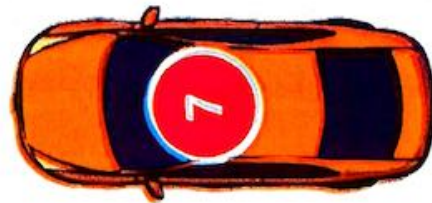


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Number Car Park

What numbers are on the cars? Can you park the cars in the matching numbered spaces in the car park?





Maths: Recognising Numbers 0 to 10

Home Learning Challenges

Go on a number hunt! What numbers can you see around your house or on your way to school? You could look at door numbers, number plates, on food packets, clocks or in magazines and books. You could take photos or draw pictures of the numbers you find. Can you find the numerals 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10?

Look at the numbers on this page. What numbers can you see? Can you find the number 2? What about the numbers 4, 6, 8 and 10?

Ask a grown-up to write the numbers 0 to 10 on pieces of paper and hide them around a room or garden. Go on a hunt for all the numbers! Each time you find a number, tell a grown-up what number you have found. You could try using a timer too – can you find and name all the numbers before the timer runs out?

In a shop, look at some birthday cards. What numbers can you see? Can you find cards for the ages 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9? How old are you?

Draw 11 simple shapes on a piece of paper. Number the shapes from 0 to 10. Place a toy onto a numbered shape and ask a friend or grown-up to tell you the number. Were they correct? Can they place the toy on a numbered shape for you to identify?

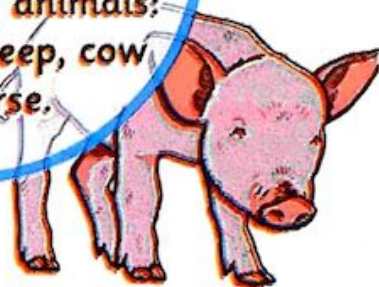
In a shallow tray or plate of flour or sand, use your finger to write a numeral from 0 to 10. Challenge a friend or grown-up to identify the number. Then ask them to write a number for you to identify.

Spring Home Learning Challenge

Go for a walk with a grown-up and look out for any signs of spring. You could draw a picture to show everyone what you saw.



During spring, lots of animals have their babies. Find out the names of these baby animals: duck, pig, sheep, cow and horse.



Make a weather chart to show what the spring weather is like. You could ~~cut out pictures from a magazine~~ ^{cut out pictures from the second sheet} to stick on your chart, or you could draw a picture of the weather each day.



Hetty the Hen had 10 eggs. On Monday 4 eggs hatched into chicks. How many eggs were left in Hetty's nest? You could draw a picture of the eggs to help you work out the answer.



Draw a picture of a flower. Remember to draw some petals, a stem and some leaves on your flower.



During spring, seeds begin to grow. In the story of Jack and the Beanstalk, Jack's beans grow into a magic beanstalk. Tell the story of Jack and the beanstalk with a grown-up at home. You could even act the story out together!

