



Nursery Newsletter

Elphinstone and Saltoun Nurseries

24th April 2020

Welcome back for our summer term 2020! We look forward to continuing to support your child and family remotely until we are all safely back at nursery.

We will continue to post daily on twitter and we hope that you will get involved when you can. Please follow us - [@EHSschools](#) Each day the Nursery Team will post a new activity or challenge that you can do with your children. You can do these on any day of the week and are completely optional. All of these are linked to a Curriculum for Excellence and are some of the things your children would normally do each day in nursery.

Week commencing 21st April 2020

Mindful Monday - Holiday

Tasty Tuesday - Pizza your way.

Wondering Wednesday- I wonder what you see on your walk?

Thoughtful Thursday - 1 2 3 4 5

Find out Friday- We would love to find out what new foods you have tried?

Week commencing 28th April 2020

Mindful Monday- Missing you

Tasty Tuesday - Chocolate crispies

Wondering Wednesday - I wonder?

Thoughtful Thursday - Row row row your boat from song bag

Find out Friday- Find out?

We would love to see some of the activities and challenges that you are doing so please post to the Twitter page any pictures that you take. If you have any ideas you would like to share or anything that you would like us to cover please let us know.

Lots of love and hugs

Your Nursery Team xxxxx



Can you help your child send an email? They could ask us a question? Tell us what your family would like to see in the newsletter or just say 'Hello'!

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kjames@elcschool.org.uk

aaylott@saltoun.elcschool.org.uk

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Linking the learning to A Curriculum for Excellence -Technology

"I can explore and play with digital technology that helps me to communicate with others with help from an adult."

Art Project

Have you all seen the Facebook group from my window East Lothian?

People are decorating their windows with different themes each week to show their support for all the key workers

- 20th April flowers
- 27th April Smiley Faces

It's flowers this week! How will you do yours? You could paint them, draw them or make some from tissue paper or anything else you have in your house. Maybe you have some real flowers?



Window Walk - When you go your walk you could have a look at other family's windows to get some ideas.

Make your own Gluck/Gloop

To make this, you will need:

2 cups of cornflour

1 cup of water

Food Colouring

A large container or bowl

Place the cornflour into a large container and put a few drops of colouring into the centre. Have the water ready for your child to pour into the container.

Mix the water into the cornflour and colouring. It will take some time to mix together but encourage your child to play with the gloop ingredients before and during mixing. What does it feel like?

Solid or Liquid: Cornflour is made of lots of long, stringy particles. When water is added they do not dissolve in water, but they do spread themselves out. This allows the gloop to act both like a solid and a liquid. When you roll the mixture in your hands or apply pressure to it, the particles join together and the mixture feels solid. But if it is left to rest or is held up and allowed to dribble, the particles slide over each other and it feels like a liquid.

Get messy and have fun while learning!!

Linking the learning to A Curriculum for Excellence -Technology - craft, design, engineering and graphics

"I can experiment with different materials and how they can join together."

"I can describe the sensation of materials through play."

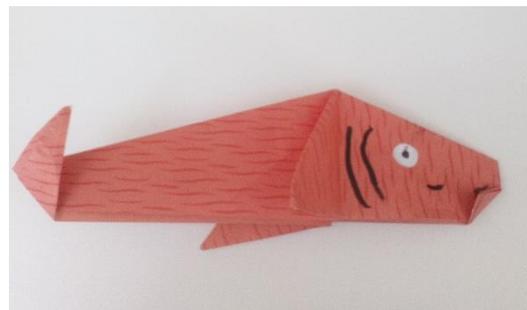


Literacy

What's in the bag?



One, two, three, four, five,
 Once I caught a fish alive.
 Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,
 Then I let it go again.
 Why did you let it go?
 Because it bit my finger so.
 Which finger did it bite?
 This little finger on the right



How are you getting on with making your song bag?

"I didn't have a bag so I made mine from a pillow case, I made my fish from paper" - Mrs Burke

Linking the learning to A Curriculum for Excellence - Expressive Arts

"I can listen and respond to music by saying how it makes me feel"

Mindfulness

As parents, carers and staff, we are all making the best of a difficult time in our lives at the moment. Your children may be going through a whole range of emotions and although children are can be resilient, sometimes it is hard for them to express and discuss their feelings. As the weeks go on, children may start to miss their friends more and more as well as the routine and active learning within the nursery (hopefully staff as well because we are soooo missing them!).

We as nursery staff are mindful of this and would like to share some ways we encourage children to express their feelings through play.

Puppets are a great way for children to convey their feelings through a medium which encourages them to use their own words to open up (often in a funny voice or accent) and not feel embarrassed about how letting us know how they feel.

Puppets

Making puppets is the first step and encourages their creativity. If a child feels sad, happy, angry etc they can display that emotion on the puppet in their own way.

Puppets can be made from many items around the house e.g. an envelope, a wooden spoon, a plastic bag, a sock, a paper bag, a card circle stuck on a lolly stick.

Children may want to draw a face on, use buttons or plastic bottle tops for eyes, string for hair or lips.

Children may like to cut out holes for ears, eyes, noses, mouths, arms or legs.

You may like to help your child build a puppet theatre out of an old cardboard box for example.

These are just some examples I am sure you can think of more if you choose to try.



Role Play

Children love to take on the role as people who help us e.g. doctors, nurses, firefighters, teachers, vets etc.

Role play will give children especially at this time the opportunity to explore their roles in the community.

They may have wondered who we are clapping for on a Thursday or why they see NHS staff in the tele wearing protective equipment.

Your child may decide to make and collect things for personal protection gear e.g. gloves, face visor, apron etc

Your children may want to make a hospital, a fire station or a vets (children may be worried about their pets getting the virus).

They may wish to make a fire engine or an ambulance.

Children have great ideas and asking things like What if? Why? Where? I Wonder? I Think.

Once the scene is set children lose themselves in their make believe world and begin to open up, express what they feel and ask questions.

So if you decide to try these with your children remember to observe closely, listen, engage with them, have lots of fun and if you wish to show us their puppets or share their role play experience with us we would be delighted.

Linking the learning to A Curriculum for Excellence

"I can respond using my voice and body in different situations within a role." (Expressive Arts - Drama)

"I can respond and extend a story using my thoughts and ideas." (Literacy)

Numeracy



You might have to ask an older relative what a beetle drive is! Ms Wagenbichler used to think her mum was going on a drive to catch beetles!

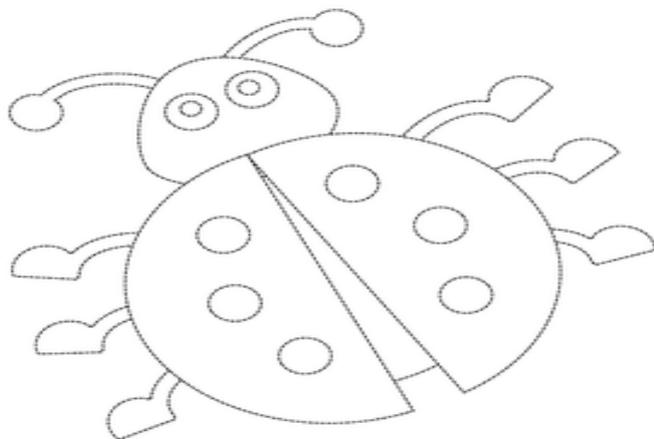
You could try this fun game with your dice ?



Roll-a-beetle

Players take turns to roll a dice and win body parts to build their beetle.
The first player to complete their beetle is the winner.

	legs
	antenna
	eyes
	wings
	head
	body



Linking the learning to A Curriculum for Excellence- Numeracy

"I have explored numbers, understanding that they represent quantities."

Hopscotch- Indoor or outdoor it's a great way to stay active and have fun with numbers.



Linking the learning to A Curriculum for Excellence- Numeracy - "I can read numerical sequences to at least 10."

Topmarks.co.uk is a great website full of fun games. The children are used to playing these in nursery. They can be used on a lap top, smart TV, tablet or phone. They especially like the teddy counting and ladybird ones as well as the underwater counting

Daily Diary

It's good if you are able to stick to a routine when things are unfamiliar. It can help if you have some structure to your days. We all benefit from a good night's sleep and that not easy when things are worrying you.

We made up a timetable in nursery with the basic things we need to do each day. Things like breakfast, fresh air, bath time, reading.

What would your timetable look like?

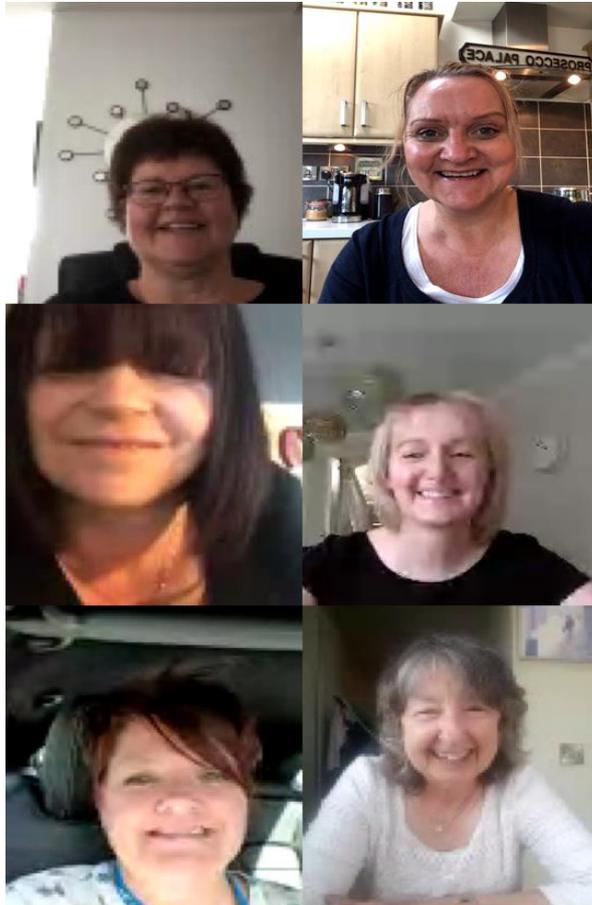
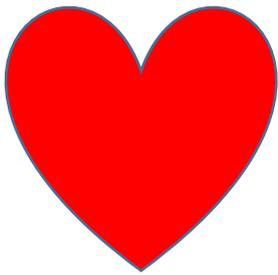
We have attached a PDF of a visual timetable if you need some inspiration, some of the symbols are not relevant at this time but you can choose the ones you would like to use. If you would like a copy of this printed off please do not hesitate to get in touch and we can arrange to have one delivered to you.

You and your child could keep a record of the things you have done while we have not been in nursery and we can add them to their learning story when we are back at school. You could keep any pictures you have drawn or take photos of things you are doing and email them to us so we can add them for you.

Linking the learning to A Curriculum for Excellence- Health and Well-being

"I can sequence my daily routine and understand the importance of rest and sleep."

We are all missing seeing you at nursery and are sending you and your family virtual hugs xxx



**Look out for the next newsletter in your email inbox on Thursday
6th May 2020!**