

Nursery Remote Learning starter pack 2020-21



If you are reading this, Nursery has had to transfer to remote learning for the time being. Enclosed in this pack are ideas and resources that can keep your child learning over the next few days, whilst the teachers prepare more specific learning and resources for this point of the year.



Play = work

Often adults think that learning happens when a teacher imparts some information or coaches a skill and then makes the children do it. This is partly how we learn. However, the vast majority of time in Early Years is spent **playing**. As Einstein said, 'Play is the highest form of research'. **This is hard work!**

When a child is playing, they are experimenting, investigating, creating and discovering. If you witness your child being focussed, excited, engaged, concentrating or motivated, then brain connections ARE literally being made and honed. Your child is making progress and this is learning. As adults, we need to understand the crucial role of play to a child's development and facilitate it.

A big part of your role over the next few days is creating an **open ended environment** that enables your child to independently play and therefore concentrate for extended periods of time. This then releases you to do your work too!

How to set up an enabling play environment



- Try toy rotation. Put away half of your child's toys and arrange the rest attractively so that children can access them and no doubt rediscover them. Google 'Montessori at Home: The Secrets to Successful Toy Rotation' if interested in a detailed approach.
- Set up a different set of toys each day on a surface or floor space without telling them. See 'Open Ended Pasta ideas' video under Workshops - Fun Ideas tab on the Reception area of the website for inspiration.
 - Tip: Vary the level of playing surfaces to promote different areas of strength and add interest. Children will often work for longer periods on their tummies or standing than sitting on a chair, which is partly why we hardly have any chairs in EYFS.
- Combine different resources together to spark imagination e.g. Lego and train track.
- Equipment such as Sellotape, scissors, glue, hole punches etc. give hours of fun. Again, arranging them on a surface will make the child notice.
- Find open ended real or natural objects and put them out e.g. different sized bowls and pasta, nuts and bolts, stones.



Reading with your child

A daily time to read stories to your child is a wonderful way to connect.



Chatting with your child



Model really good listening (don't interrupt!)

Reflect back to them and stay curious

Think out loud when you are doing normal tasks like cooking. This then models good language but also gives them lots of information and new vocabulary in context, which is how they pick up new words.

Go outside 😊



NHS recommends that 0-5year olds need at least 3 hours of physical activity throughout the day with at least 60 minutes of vigorous activity.

It's open ended and you didn't have to set it up...adventures always happen!

Helping your child continue their play

It's possible to extend children's interest in their activities with carefully placed comments. Try and avoid asking your child how many wheels their vehicle has got though! It's so rarely what they are interested in and the purpose of their play. If you can work out their agenda, then you can prolong their play.

This is the prompt sheet we give to all staff in Early Years to support their interactions with children:

WATCH, WAIT, WONDER

- Try not speaking until you are spoken to.
- Be a warm & friendly presence. (Give your attention. Smile. Be on their level)
- If you are fascinated, you will be led by the children.

How can I make a difference?

Show they have been understood	with gestures, listening noises, reflecting back, recapping 'So you think that...'
Suggest	Perhaps you could...What about...Could you try
Encourage	You have thought really hard about where to put this door. I wonder where you will put the windows?
Make links	Have you seen anything like this before? What do you notice?
Alternative view point	Maybe Goldilocks wasn't naughty when she ate the porridge
Provide resources	Have you spotted this really great rolling pin? Get something from the resources room to facilitate their agenda
Explore ideas	Do you think the three bears would have liked Goldilocks to live with them?
Remind	Do you remember what you noticed yesterday about the water tray?
Narrate	e.g. tell a story as you play with the small world OR Model and think out loud. "I'm turning the cooker on to 180 because that's what it says in the recipe book."
Invite elaboration	Tell me more, show me, how did you, what do you think would happen next
Prompt explanations	Why do you think we put that there?
Set challenges	Could you get the water to travel from the tray, to the sandpit without losing any?

Resources, ideas and reference materials

We really recommend you plan a rough timetable for your day. Due to the age of your child, you will need to be on hand to start them on different activities. There isn't a 'one size fits all approach' due to everyone's varying work commitments, technological resources and other siblings or family set up. However, this is one model you might find useful as a starting point.

9.00	Independent play Reveal the toys / equipment your child can play with and let them get on with it, refocusing with the prompt sheet suggestions if necessary
10.00	Snack and drink
10.15	Movement – song / dance (see list below)
10.30	Fine motor activity (see list below)
11.00	Outdoor time – If you have a garden, you could set up resources there for another set of independent play. Pouring activities or gross motor activities are great there.
12.00	Help get lunch ready then enjoy!
1:00	Cosmic Yoga (see youtube)
1:15	Listen to an audio book
1:30	Independent play Reset play resources e.g get out playdough and cooking equipment
3.00	Tidy up time
3.30	Outdoor time
Reading time	Perhaps after dinner




Warm ups songs list: (from the Learning Station on YouTube)



- Happy dance
- Shake your sillies out
- Penguin dance
- Down in the jungle
- Body bop
- Heads, shoulders, knees and toes
- Move and freeze
- I am the music man

Topics

Our Knowledge maps can be found on the website under the curriculum tab, accessed with the password SW13bps. They give a useful overview of each topic with key skills and vocabulary included which you may like to refer to.

<p>WOWs</p> <p>Bubbles for being brave, decorating home group photos, Nursery wishes, teddy bear's picnic, show and tell family photos, African masks parade</p> 	<p>All About Me – settling in to school life</p>  <p>Physical Development Physical warm ups (responding to music, developing gross motor strength and coordination ready for writing)</p> <p>Key skills: I am exploring the environment safely- jumping off the sandpit, using hammers at the woodwork table and navigating the climbing frame. I am beginning to dress independently, wash my hands, wipe my bottom and negotiate space.</p> <p>Personal Social and Emotional Development I know and can follow the routines and expectations in Nursery so that everyone has fun. I am beginning to realise others have feelings and I take care of them. I initiate conversations with others. Helpful phrases we learn: "Please stop, I don't like it. May I have a go when you are finished? Let's get a timer."</p> <p>Communication and Language I am learning to sit and listen during short group learning sessions. I can ask for milk or water at snack time. I can say please and thank you. I can talk about things that are important to me. I am learning greetings in other languages.</p>	<p>Warm ups songs list (from the learning station on youtube)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If you're happy and you know it <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shake your sillies out - Penguin dance - Down in the jungle - Joanie works with one hammer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I am the music man - I'm so happy that's why I clap my hands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Heads, shoulders, knees and toes - Body bop
<p>Learning, love and laughter</p>	<p>Characteristics of effective learning</p> <p>I can... find out and explore; play with what I know; be willing to have a go; be involved and concentrate; keep on trying; enjoy achieving what I set out to do; have my own ideas; make links; choose ways to do things</p>	<p>Home Corner & Paw Patrol Shed</p>  <p>Goldilocks words (not too easy, not too hard...just right)</p> <p>family • favourite • furniture • rescue • home • belonging • shopping list</p>

Our fool proof play dough recipe – this is a fun one to do together with your child and it lasts over a week!

Ingredients

- 1 cup of plain flour
- 1 cup of water
- 1 tablespoon cooking oil
- 2 teaspoons cream of tartar
- half a cup of salt
- food colouring (optional)



Method 1 - Saucepan

Place all the ingredients in a saucepan at a low heat. Stir continuously until the mixture thickens to a firm dough texture.

Method 2 - Microwave

Place all the ingredients in a plastic container and cook for one and a half minutes in a microwave. Stir the mixture and microwave again for one minute.

Why Make Your Own Dough?

Making dough is simple and much cheaper than buying it.

Using Play Dough

Dough can give children an opportunity to discover how a soft, stretchy material can behave. At first they will be happy just to handle the dough. It can be a soothing and relaxing activity.

Children always enjoy play cooking, so provide rolling pins, plastic cutters and plates.

Storing Play Dough

Store the dough in an airtight container such as a plastic bag or box, and keep it in the fridge. Like this the dough should keep for up to 2 weeks

Moon sand recipe

Another fool proof and really fun tactile material facilitating hours of fun. Your children can bring their cars, trains, trucks to the scene for small world exploration.



8 cups of flour

1 cup of oil



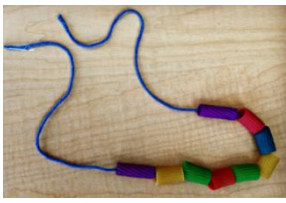




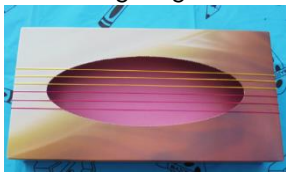







Mix these together and you're good to go!

Gross Motor

Some fun gross motor movement ideas to play around with 😊

<p>Move e.g. jump, slide, crawl, crab <i>sideways and backwards</i></p> 	<p>Lie on your back with your feet pointing to the sky</p> 	<p>Roll like a tortoise out of his shell and stand up quickly and slowly</p> 
<p>Pretend to stretch to push a heavy rock up a hill</p> 	<p>Stretch like a starfish on a beach and jump up like a firework</p> 	<p>Stretch and move lightly like a spider on a web</p> 
<p>Bubble blowing and popping. Great for hand eye coordination (plus it's fun!)</p> 	<p>Can they keep the balloon up with their head? Toes? Elboes? Head then their knees?</p> 	<p>Catch / bounce catch / football / piggy in the middle</p> 

Fine motor ideas

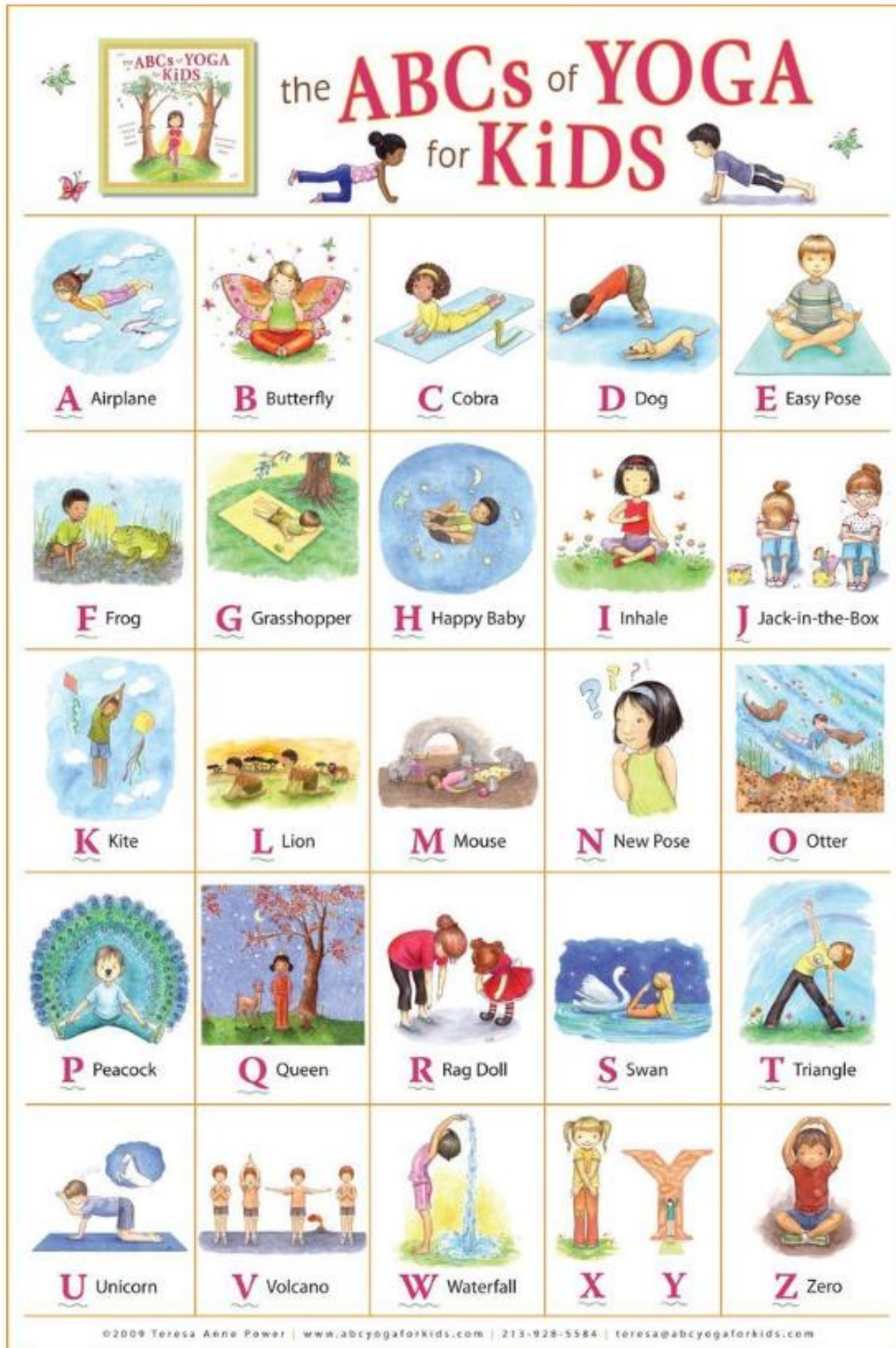
<p>Knot tying!</p> 	<p>Hanging up the washing with pegs</p> 	<p>Threading pasta</p> 
<p>Syringes in the bath for squirting water</p> 	<p>Lego!</p> 	<p>Scissors</p> 
<p>Finding the end of the sellotape</p> 	<p>Making a pretend guitar with elastic bands stretched out over a recycling box</p> 	<p>Poking straws in holes</p> 
<p>Weaving wool around random household objects</p> 	<p>Making patterns with natural resources from the garden</p> 	<p>Puzzles</p> 
<p>Ear buds painting</p> 	<p>Stickers</p> 	<p>Dough gym</p> 

Dough Gym link...this is really fun!

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=dough+disco+youtube&view=detail&mid=E340971D8D2B37549A60E340971D8D2B37549A60&FORM=VIRE>

Mindfulness

A series of poses to relax the mind



Have a go at cosmic yoga at home. Here is a link to the channel where you can find lots of activities:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga>

Sorting activities - could be useful for the household!



And of course, expressive art and design activities are essential for children to do!



Please be assured that we will do our utmost to support you in this time.

With very best wishes,

The Nursery Team