

Snow Edition Nursery Class Newsletter



Dear Parent/Carers,

We are aware that as winter approaches we may need to prepare ourselves for a snow closure day. We thought it may be a good idea to share some of our learning in nursery, which may help when thinking of things to do when staying at home.

We have been exploring signs of autumn and have learnt that the birds at this time of year, when the ground is hard and covered in frost and ice rely on various types of berries for food. This problem gets worse for the birds in winter and perhaps you and your child can come up with ideas on how to help the birds in the winter months. The concept of putting fresh water out for the birds and finding out what happens when the water is left in the cold temperatures is a super science experiment. You may want to put together a scrap book of what you did, how you went about it, the birds that were attracted to the food, any recipes that you used. Creating a pictorial of the activity and sticking it into a scrap book is a good maths activity for sequencing the event and a using a recipe is an ideal way of counting, measuring and weighing ingredients, even better if you have to take a visit by sledge to the local shops to purchase some of the ingredients, the children could create the list and count out the pennies needed. We love to see the childrens photo's and pictures they have drawn and it's even better when someone has scribed their story or information for us to share.

To help with this activity you could visit the following websites:

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives

WWW.RSPB.org.uk

We have been practising our writing patterns and with the use of a stick or their fingers/hands/feet, the children could create big zig zags, wavy lines, crosses, stripes, loop the loops and circles in the snow. The children could use a

paint brush and some diluted food colouring and paint the patterns in the snow. It would be interesting to find out what happens?

We can't forget about building a snowman. This again is an ideal opportunity to compare size and weight and to count the items needed to add the features to the snowman. Like *The Snowman*, you could encourage your child to invent a story about their creation and draw and write the story of their snowman character, bringing him to life to share with their friends on return to nursery.

It's a good idea to cosy down with a book on these cold days, sometimes an old favourite is good or a new book hidden away on standby is a nice surprise, especially if it's about your child's favourite character. The story may be a prompt to create a new character or friend or model eg a spaceship for an alien, castle for a princess, this could be drawn, constructed from blocks, lego etc or made from junk, anything your child can be creative with. There are App's and video clips on-line to support lots of stories. Some of the authors have their own websites and offer activities, stories, songs and games. It's worth taking a look. Two of our most favourite authors have been:

Julia Donaldson - WWW.juliadonaldson.co.uk

Eric Carle - WWW.eric-carle.com

Cbeebies is always fantastic for engaging with stories, characters, songs, fun and games.

Good luck with the snow day activities and remember to share any good ideas with us, along with some of the fun, learning activities your child has been involved in.

The Early Learning And Childcare Team