

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope all your families are well and keeping safe during this uncertain time. Our topic after Easter is Sea Life so I have put together some information on activities you could try at home with your children, should you wish to do so. I appreciate that you do not have the same range of resources available to you at home as we have in school, so I have created a more general list below of play based activities which you can try at home. These are general activities to cater for a wide range of abilities in our class so don't worry if your child is less engaged in some things, finds some things too easy or finds some things too tricky. The most important thing is for them to continue to play and have fun!

The children have learnt so many new skills since September and it would be great to see how they are continuing this at home on the Class Dojo app.

Kindest regards

Danielle Homer
Little Apples Teacher

Communication and My Voice:

Read story books together. Encourage your child to recognise and name simple animals, characters and objects.

Watch or read Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister. There is an animated version of the story available on YouTube if you don't have a copy of the book at home.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifXlc0QI2kY>

Make a multisensory book containing photos, pictures and sensory collages.

Watch Alphablocks on Cbeebies or BBC iPlayer to practise letter sounds.

Download the Teach Your Monster to Read app to practise letters, sounds and reading.

Make marks with pens, crayons, chalks, paints, whatever you have at home and encourage your child to practise circles, vertical lines and horizontal lines. If they get really good at this, encourage them to write the letters in their name, write letters in the alphabet and draw simple pictures.

Practise key word signing by watching Mr Tumble on Cbeebies or YouTube.

Practise singing and signing along to videos by Singing Hands on YouTube.

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

Sing and sign along to simple rhymes on the BBC School Radio website such as;

1,2,3,4,5 once I caught a fish alive

Row, row, row your boat

A sailor went to sea, sea, sea

There's a hole at the bottom of the sea

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-songs-index/zhwdgwx>

Curious Thinkers:

Practise counting everyday items and sets of toys up to 10.

Build towers together with construction toys and count how many bricks you use.

Watch Numberblocks on Cbeebies or BBC iPlayer to practise number recognition and counting skills.

Sing and sign along to counting songs and rhymes on BBC School Radio.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-counting-songs/zn67kmm>

Recognise and name colours.

Copy simple colour patterns with Duplo bricks, e.g. red, blue, red, blue

Match, recognise and name 2D shapes.

Make a 2D shape picture together.

Play with water and explore capacity by filling and emptying containers such as bowls, cups and jugs. Try and model the use of the terms empty and full. If you can't do this outside, then try practising this at bath time.

Make sensory bottles with water, food colouring and cooking oil to explore which liquids mix.

Match, recognise and name animals that live in the sea.

Get Creative:

Make a collage of the Rainbow Fish using tin foil and paper.

Colour in simple colouring sheets, encouraging your child to try and select appropriate colours and stay in the lines.

Practise sticking stickers in the right place in a sticker book.

Do some chalking on the floor in the garden.

Do some sensory mark making in shaving foam.

Explore painting with brushes and sponges.

Mix colours and see what happens.

Life & Living:

Play together with role play food. If you don't have any you could use clean, empty food packaging and plastic cups and plates.

Learn how to lay the table for a family meal.

Prepare simple foods together; buttering toast, choosing toast toppings and sandwich fillings, making sandwiches, helping with baking.

Practise undressing and dressing independently.

Practise putting shoes on the right feet.

My World:

Play with simple cause and effect toys.

Play together on simple cause and effect apps on an iPad or tablet if you have one.

Play with sand and water.

Make your own play dough. <https://theimaginationtree.com/best-ever-no-cook-play-dough-recipe/>

Encourage your child to help with maintaining the garden at home by planting seeds, watering the flowers and putting out bird feed.

Do some sensory play with coloured rice and pasta. <https://theimaginationtree.com/easiest-way-to-dye-rice-for-sensory-play/>

Mind, Body and Spirit:

Play tag and run around in the garden!

Copy simple actions from Preschool Learn to Dance videos on YouTube. The Big, Blue Whale video matches with our Sea Life topic. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Parej8Fi0es>

Have a go at doing Cosmic Kids Yoga together. <https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga>

Have a go at doing the Jo Wicks Kids Workout videos on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3LPrhI0v-w>

Practise fine motor skills together by doing insert puzzles and simple jigsaw puzzles.

Squash, squeeze and model with play dough. Have a go at following the Dough Disco videos on YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj0shfH3pzhrf3dOrSj_pRw