

# What will Foundation Stage be learning this term?

## Topic – The Arctic

January and February 2019

Please continue to send in WOW slips to celebrate your child's achievements at home and please ask if you need anymore. If your child is wearing tights to school on a P.E. day, please ensure they have a pair of socks in their P.E. kit.

### Communication and Language

The children will be encouraged to build up their vocabulary and use talk to organize, sequence and clarify thinking. They will be encouraged to ask questions to further their understanding.

### Literacy (reading and writing)

The children will be exploring a variety of fiction texts relating to our topic. They will have opportunities to consider what the characters may be thinking or feeling and will be encouraged to recall the story in their own words. They will be encouraged to apply their phonic skills when reading and writing and will be able to break a sentence into words to begin to write dominant sounds for each word in the sentence. They will begin to use spaces between the words they write, recognizing that writing is from left to right across the page.

Please continue to read daily with your child and record this in their reading diary. This is crucial to continued good progress. It is also vital that the children practise their letter names as well as the sounds that letters make (with and without the picture to help) They should continue to regularly practise their tricky words.

### Mathematics

The children will continue to work on recognition of numbers to 10 and accurate counting of objects to match a numeral. Following on from our work on addition before Christmas, we will be exploring the concept of subtraction. We will work on associated problems e.g. If I have 5 biscuits on the plate and Mum eats 2, how many will be left? They will use practical objects to do this and will record appropriately using +, - and = symbols. They will become familiar with the concept of sharing objects into 2 or more groups and noticing whether this can be done equally. They will also order objects by length or height and will use cubes or similar objects to measure them, using vocabulary such as long/short/tall, longer/shorter/taller and longest/shortest/tallest

### Physical Development

In dance the children will be focusing on a circus theme. They will mime various acts found at the circus such as the trapeze, tightrope walking, clowning around and juggling. They will also learn a simple dance to some very well known music as they put their dance and mimes together to create 'The Greatest Show!'

They will continue to develop the correct pencil grip and explore the different handwriting families of ladder letters, robot letters, caterpillar letters, zig zag letters and other letters.

### Understanding the World

The children will be learning about the location of the Arctic and Antarctic. They will find out about what it is like to live there and how this compares to where they live, considering what items they would need to pack if they were to visit. They will investigate the different animals and birds that live there and will compare them, recognizing external features e.g. beak, fur, paws, feathers and similarities and differences between them. They will group animals and birds according to a criteria given to them and will be encouraged to decide their own way of sorting them. They will recognize how a polar animal or bird changes as it grows and will know that this is a cycle that continues. They will learn to observe and talk about changes when investigating ice melting and experimenting with different substances to see which helps the ice to melt the quickest. They will talk about what they think will happen and then what actually happened. The children will also be finding out about Polar explorers who have completed expeditions to the North or South Pole either more recently or long ago.

The children will be learning how to input information into a program to create a pictogram, including using their skills from last term to draw pictures for the pictogram. They will begin to be able to understand how the use of the computer program is a more permanent way of recording information.

### Religious Education (R.E.)

The children will find out about special books for different religions and how these should be treated. They will learn the story of the lost sheep and consider what it can teach us about Jesus and good, bad, right and wrong. They will learn a special story for Muslims and one for Jewish people

### French

The children will be learn vocabulary associated with the weather through games, songs and activities.

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

They will be exploring the benefits of working as a team, assigning and accepting roles and listening and supporting others. They will learn how to listen to each other appropriately, negotiate and co-operate. They will learn about the role of money, where this comes from and the benefits of saving.

### Expressive Arts and Design

The children will be exploring the idea of camouflage using patterns with paint and will create their own camouflaged polar animal. The children will mix white paint with a colour and observe how different amounts of white create different shades. They will be encouraged to cut paper with greater accuracy and will recognize how textures can be combined. Through their music work they will be able to copy a simple rhythm and create their own rhythms and patterns using their own body parts as well as percussion instruments.