

Planning for Nursery Parents
Why can't I have chocolate for breakfast?
Week 5

Firstly, we will be making telephone calls to all families this week. Please remember that our numbers may appear as withheld. We hope everyone is safe and well; and the children are keeping busy.

This is the last week for this term. Please read through the table below first, and choose activities to focus on for this week. The Science and Innovate activities are included as a special end-of-term activity. As with all other activities, please adapt them to suit your child and what you have available to you at home. There are activities linked to the Gruffalo and the Love Monster. Numeracy practice by singing '10 Green Bottles' and bowling. We have also included a document this week about why den building is very important in early childhood, for parents who are interested.

Evidence of your child's work and play can be uploaded into their J2 My Files folders. You can communicate with us through those files or through J2message. There has been really lovely evidence of your child's learning uploaded already; and it has been a pleasure to see the children happy and engaged. Keep up the hard work!

Finally, we hope you have enjoyed the activities during this very unusual term that we've had. The week beginning the 25th of May is half-term; time to relax. We will share with you a document summarising the new topic for next term, which begins the 1st of June.

Keep safe & Keep Engaged!
Diolch,
Mrs. Muldoon & Mrs. James

	Language, Literacy and Communication Skills	Mathematical Skills	Personal & Social Development, and Well-being	Knowledge and Understanding of the World	Physical Development and Play	Creative Development
<p>Week 5 Innovate Important this Week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gruffalo and Love Monster 10 Green Bottles Asking & Answering Questions Science & Innovate Den building and Junk modelling 	<p>Sing Morning Songs</p> <p>Little Red Hen Story</p> <p>Read, Write, Inc practice set 1 sounds.</p> <p>Share the story of the The Gruffalo.</p> <p>Share the story of The Love Monster and the Last Chocolate.</p> <p>Mark-making Lines practice. Try combining types of lines and shapes to make a picture.</p> <p>Continue Name practice on paper, with loose parts and outdoors.</p> <p>Play I Spy Healthy Foods.</p>	<p>Learn and practice the counting song 10 Green Bottles.</p> <p>Bottle Bowling Activity and Game: Practice playing, counting and ordering. See below for instructions.</p> <p>Look at the 3D shape activity "Does it roll?". Help your child to practice saying the words for the shapes.</p> <p>Practice Number formation rhymes</p> <p>Practice Un Bys, Dau Fys counting song in Welsh.</p> <p>Introduce/Practice the concept of pattern with your child. Click here for ideas.</p>	<p>Cook something together. Look at these five Gruffalo recipes with your child and maybe choose one to cook together if you can.</p> <p>Share the Gruffalo story Stay in your Cave. Discuss the story with your child. Click here for family discussion ideas.</p> <p>Circle Time Questions Just For Fun: Look at the questions and ask/answer with your child or better with the whole family. "Would you rather have a dragon or be a dragon?" "What would you do if you could fly?" Lots of opportunities for language development.</p>	<p>Science & Innovate: Try the Chocolate Factory activity and the Love Monster's Box activity. See below for instructions.</p> <p>Re-grow vegetables from scraps with your child. Click here to see how to re-grow carrots. Click here for more vegetables that can be re-grown using scraps.</p> <p>For full-time children, share this presentation All About the NHS. See below for advice.</p>	<p>This week's PE session with Mr. Rees.</p> <p>Explore the concept of Body Percussion. Cbeebies has a simple introduction video here. BBC Bitesize has resources here which include question cards and an interactive app. This supports physical, creative and numeracy skills.</p> <p>Support your child to make a den or Gruffalo cave. Click here for advice on den building and why it is very important in early childhood. Click here for IKEA instructions.</p>	<p>Support your child to make some DIY noise makers and instruments to support pattern recognition and body percussion. See below for examples of noise makers.</p> <p>Support your child to make some 3D paper art. Look at the examples below with your child and discuss how to create their own.</p> <p>Use junk materials and/or art materials to make things for your den. Encourage your child to use junk-modelling to make play items and signs for their den.</p>

Bottle Bowling Activity

Learn the song "10 Green Bottles Hanging on the Wall". Using any sized plastic bottles, work with your child to decorate and number the bottles from one to ten.

Practice ordering the bottles in a line from 1 to 10.

Practice ordering the bottles in a line from 10 to 1.

Arrange the bottles in a pyramid for bowling. Using a ball (or other object) play a bowling game. During the game ask questions like: "How many bottles are knocked down?" and "How many bottles are still up?". Help your child to count. Leave the bottles available for play through the week.

Enhancing the activity:

Make a simple tally chart, and encourage your child to record on paper how many bottles were up and how many were down. Use the [number rhymes](#) to help your child remember how to write the number.



Chocolate Factory and Love Monster's Box

(Note: These are two separate activities, but could be combined as one.)

Chocolate Factory:

Skills:

- Explore and experiment.
- Think about what might happen if...
- Make observations and measurements and keep records.
- See links between cause and effect.
- Use and become familiar with common words and phrases for their world.

Explore the sensory and scientific properties of chocolate by smelling, handling and tasting different types. Ask your child to hold a piece of chocolate in their hands or place somewhere warm. Can they describe what happens? Encourage them to use the word 'melting'. Pour melted chocolate onto a flat baking tray (or into moulds) and let your child add different toppings, such as berries, mini marshmallows, and dried fruit. Put the trays in the fridge to set. Ask your child what they think will happen to the chocolate. Were their predictions correct?

Love Monster's Chocolate Box:

This is an innovate activity that covers a wide range of skills across the whole curriculum; including:

- Literacy - Speaking, Listening, Collaboration and Discussion, Pre-writing Skills
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Personal Development, Social Development and Well-being

Share the story "The Love Monster and the Last Chocolate". Use an empty chocolate box or make a container labelled "Love Monster's Chocolate Box". Ask your child how will Love Monster feel when he sees an empty box and what can we do to help. Provide ingredients to make chocolates for Love Monster. Fruit, marshmallows or toffees can be dipped in melted chocolate and left to set on greaseproof paper. You could use milk, white or dark chocolate and provide sprinkles or cocoa powder to decorate. Alternatively, use the chocolate bark from the activity above and let your child cut it or break it into pieces. Pieces can be wrapped with tin foil and placed into the box.

When Monster's chocolate box is full again, work with your child to write a letter to Monster explaining what you have done. Encourage your child to tell Love Monster about their work and suggest alternative healthy snacks to try. Write or type your child's words exactly as they speak them to you. Ask your child to find the first letter of their name on the keyboard to sign their message.

All About the NHS presentation - Advice for Parents

This is a presentation created by Twinkl. It is aimed at all of Key Stage 1, children aged 3 to 7. It may seem daft to many of you to share a presentation with 3-4 year olds; but we do it slightly differently in the Nursery. I've included this as we would do this with our full-time children.

As the adult, read through the presentation before you begin with your child. Consider the presentation as a background for what you are talking about. Start with the first slide and ask your child what they can see. Ask them if they know what those people do. What type of building do they think it is. Work through the slides talk about the key points only in language your child will understand. Encourage your child to ask questions if they want to.

For example, on Slide 4 I would say simply "A long time ago, before we had the NHS, only rich people with lots of money could go to a doctor. Seeing a doctor used to cost a lot of money." Ask your child if they think that was fair and talk about why. Say let's find out more. Slide 5, I would say "this is Aneurin Bevan and he was from Wales. And he didn't think it was fair either". Slide 6, "So, he started the NHS so everyone could get help if they were ill."

The slides go on to label different types of people who work in the NHS. I would discuss the names/titles and encourage children to ask questions; but not go into great detail unless a child's questions lead into it.

The slides then go on to explain what PPE is. Again, discuss in simple terms why doctors and nurses wear certain uniforms to keep themselves safe. It is okay if your child thinks it looks scary. When we have taken classes of young children in the past to visit the fire department, often the firefighters are reluctant to put on their fully deployed helmets. They say that it might be scary; however the children are mostly fascinated and most want to try the equipment on. Young children learning about 'people who help us' should learn that some uniforms do look a little bit scary, but that it is okay because they are there to help us.

DIY Noise Makers:

Once your child has made one, set a timer and let them make as much noise as possible before the timer goes off.

Then, introduce the idea of patterns/beats. Make up simple patterns for your child copy.

Similar to the body percussion moves, encourage your child to use the noise maker to make a pattern.



One plate folded in half or 2 plates together. Add dry ingredients to inside like rice or dried peas. Glue or staple together. Decorate.

To make a chinese drum, insert a stick into the bottom and attach string to the sides. Use pasta, beads or small stones on the end of the string.



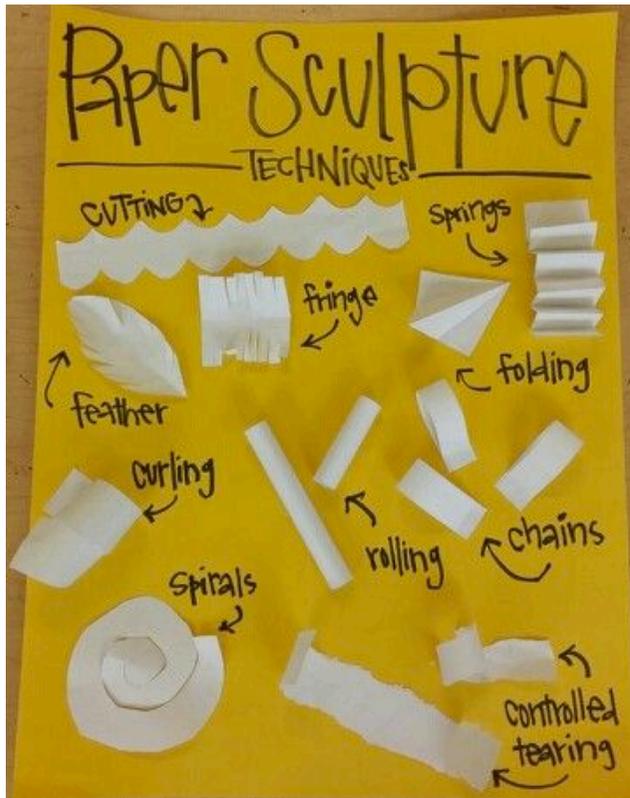
Toilet roll kazoo: wax paper secured tightly with a rubber band to one end. Poke a small hole in one side of the cardboard for the sound to escape.

Toilet roll and kitchen roll tubes can be fashioned into noise makers in various ways. This is a "make and do" activity. You may need to model the activity to begin with; and then allow your child to experiment to make their own.

Ends can be folded, squashed or made from other materials. Secure with tape, rubber bands, glue, string or staples.

Ingredients for the inside can include: dried peas, rice, pasta, beans, beads, popcorn kernels, pebbles, stones, coins, marbles... or any combination to make noise.





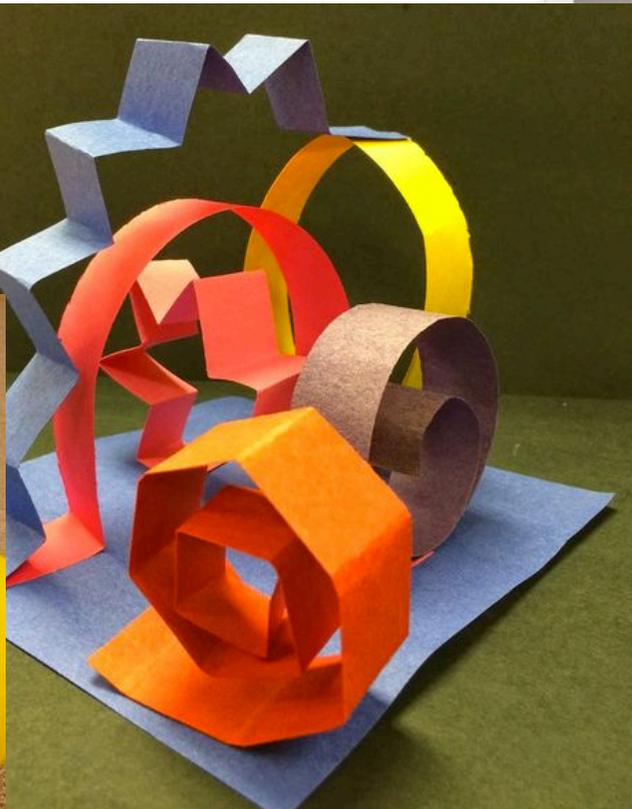
3D Paper Art:

The important thing here is experimentation. Model some of the techniques with your child; like zig/zag folding or bridging. Once you've done a few with your child, gradually remove yourself and allow them to continue. Encourage your child to experiment with different ways of building the paper sculpture.

Note: There are similarities here to the lines we practice drawing.



Meghan M.



Elias W.