

Dinosaurs

Dear Parents,

At the beginning of the unit the children will come up with lots of questions about dinosaurs that they would like to find the answers to. The children will be learning the names of some of the dinosaurs and how they were suited to being herbivores or carnivores. Children will also learn about how we know about dinosaurs today by becoming palaeontologists to understand how fossils are made.

Here are some activities we have planned:

Literacy	
Reading	Writing
 Non-fiction books about Dinosaurs Dinosaurs poems Dear Dinosaur Dear Zoo 	 Writing sentences about different dinosaurs Writing a fact card about a chosen dinosaur Developing the confidence to attempt independent writing for a purpose
Dinosaur facts	 Beginning to understand and write simple sentences
Phonics	Handwriting
The children will continue to consolidate phase 2	Continuing to learn to form letters correctly.
sounds whilst starting or continuing phase 3. The sounds we will be teaching are - j/v/w/x/y/z digraphs qu/th/sh/ch/ng/ai/oa//ee/oa/oo/ /ow/oi/er/ar/ur trigraphs - ear, igh, air, ure	Focus on consistent letter size and correct orientation of ascenders and decenders.
	Maths

Opportunities will be provided for the children to develop, consolidate and demonstrate their mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding. More mathematical recording will be introduced. The use of mathematical vocabulary for teaching and learning will also be emphasised.

- Exploring the numbers up to 10 looking at different representations of these numbers, which numbers are fewer/more, how to partition these numbers in various ways, problem solving using these numbers.
- Measure length/height
- Addition and subtraction
- Problem solving

Understanding The World	Looking at different types of dinosaurs, their similarities and differences. Sorting dinosaurs according to their features. Role play palaeontologist laboratory. The children will go a dig for dinosaur bones discuss what dinosaur they might be from? Why?
ICT	The children will be continuing to develop their mouse control skills. Beginning to learn how to log on to the computer. Exploring ICT programmes eg maths and phonics activities
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	This half term we will be looking at 'feelings'. What types of feelings do we have? How do we cope with them? How can we help others to cope with their feelings? We will also look at friendship
RE	We will be looking at Jewish celebrations and making comparisons to Christian celebrations.
Expressive Arts and Design	Exploring colour and texture of dinosaur's skin. Painting dinosaurs. Making dinosaur models. Making large scale dinosaur collages, making dinosaur masks. Music - singing dinosaur songs and looking at pulse/beat
Physical Development	The children will continue to develop their hand/eye co-ordination skills and ball skills as well as developing some simple gymnastic skills. They will also continue to develop their fine motor and cutting skills through a range of activities.

Things that you could do at home

Read lots of information books about dinosaurs

Visit the New Walk Museum or Natural History Museum through a virtual tour

Websites

http://kidsdigdinos.com/dinosaurfacts.htm

http://www.thedinosaurmuseum.com/dino-facts

http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/games/andys-dinosaur-adventures-game

https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/andys-prehistoric-adventures

Reading

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zdp4382/articles/znc3y9q

Oxford Owl website

http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/

Listening to your child read really does make a difference! Just 5-10 minutes a night. Asking questions about the story develops their comprehension. Don't forget to flash card phase 2 and 3 high frequency words daily to help develop your child's fluency when reading.

Phonics website (phase 2 and 3) (most children are starting phase 3 this term)

http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/ http://www.letters-and-sounds.com/

Thank you for your continued support, The Foundation Team