

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are unsure as to how long absence from nursery will be necessary. With this in mind, we have prepared a variety of learning opportunities for you to choose from and enjoy at home with your child.

Physical development/Developing pre-writing skills

- Mix mud and water and use paintbrushes/sticks to make marks outside.
- Use tongs/tweezers/chopsticks to pick up small objects (cotton balls, cereal pieces, rice, beans)
- Colouring, tracing, scribbling
- Make playdoh – find simple recipes online.
- Fill plastic washing up bottles with water and squeeze out.
- Draw lines, patterns, pictures in shaving cream, hair gel, paint
- Draw with an Etch-A-Sketch
- Use finger paint inside a plastic bag to practice lines, shapes, patterns
- Threading pasta through wool
- Fill buckets with water and make marks outside on patio with scrubbing brushes/paint brushes/rollers.
- Use stickers to decorate name.

Number

- Play 'What's the time Mr wolf' to practise reciting numbers in order.
- Sing 5 little speckled frogs, using fingers to represent frogs. Can your child make their own frog masks using paper plates?
- Building towers with duplo/lego. *Is your tower taller or shorter than mine? Can you make yours taller than mine? How would you make your tower shorter?*
- Draw big roads in the shape of numerals 1-5 . Can your child drive their car on the numeral? Can they draw their own?
- Puppet/teddy bear says a number. Ask your child has to show that number of fingers.
- Adult claps a number of times. Ask your child to listen carefully and show that number of fingers. Can they nod that number of times? Jump? Hop?

- Adult drops coins into a bucket. Can your child count how many coins have been dropped?
- Be 'number detectives.' What numerals can your child spot indoors/outdoors?
- Make numerals 1-5 using train track/sticks/leaves/grass.
- Read/tell stories such as 'The 3 Little Pigs,' 'The 3 Billy Goat's Gruff,' 'Goldilocks and the 3 Bears.' Can your child find 3 bowls/Make 3 pigs/Create a bridge for the 3 goats to walk across.
- Play number statues. Write numbers 1-5 on separate pieces of paper. When the music stops say a number and see if your child can find the number and make a statue on it until the music starts again.

Communication and Language/Phonics

- Sit in the garden and ask your child to put on their 'listening ears.' Ask them to sit quietly for a short period and tell you what sounds they can hear. Draw pictures to represent the sounds e.g. car horn, birds, talking.
- Shopping bag game. Fill a bag with items out of the kitchen and play the game 'I went to the shops and I bought...' Items to be recalled in order.
- Tongue twisters – Give yourself a name with a tongue twister e.g. Silly Sally's snake...Help your child to come up with theirs.
- Dressing up – Put some dressing up items in a bag and ask your child to pull an item out. Encourage them to say the initial sound e.g. 'h' for hat. If they can say it they can put it on.
- Sounds like – Ask your child to find an object in the room e.g. car. Ask if they can find another object that starts with the same sound e.g. cake.
- Simon says – Use sound talk to give your child instructions such as; Touch your h-ea-d, touch your -b-a-ck. Can they sound out simple CVC words such as c-a-t, p-o-t, p-a-t, t-i-p, m-a-t? Can they identify what sound these words start with.

We will continue to be in contact via the SeeSaw app and available to help should you need us.

We really appreciate the continuing support you provide and hope you all stay safe and healthy.

Kind regards,

Mrs Williamson and the Ladybirds team