

# Dinosaur Detectives!

Our new topic in Reception is

Our new topic is 'Dinosaur Detectives!' through which the children will be exploring the theme of 'Dinosaurs'. Each learning block will provide new learning experiences. If you can, please discuss with your child the work they have done as the term progresses and even let them teach you if they can. Please keep us informed about your child's interests during the IEYC unit of learning as this helps us to plan relevant learning experiences that will appeal to your child's curiosity. By the end of this unit we hope your child has achieved all of the learning targets and that they have had an enjoyable time in the classroom. Thank you for your cooperation and support. Mrs Metcalf and the EYFS team.

## Mathematics

- Children will be counting up to 20 using a range of resources within the classroom.
- Children will be asked to recognise numbers between 0-20 and be able to place them in order.
- We will be looking at one more and one less than a given number to 20.
- We will begin to use objects to add and subtract two single digit numbers.
- We will look at 2D and 3D shapes.
- We will be adding coins together in our dinosaur museum shop and café.

A long time ago, before people like you and me lived on the Earth, there were dinosaurs! No one has ever seen a real dinosaur before, but we know lots about them- what they look like, what they ate and just how big and tall they were. We are going to travel back in time to the land of the dinosaurs to find out more about these amazing creatures. Get ready for an exciting adventure!

## Communication, Language and Literacy

- Oracy – describe and name a dinosaur they have designed. Adopt a role e.g a palaeontologist in the role play area (fill with paper mache fossils, paintbrushes, magnifying glasses, maps etc). Opportunities for role-play (Museum) and changing story endings.
- Reading – create a reading area of fiction and non-fiction books on the topic. Share dinosaur stories and expose children to a range of books linked to the topic.
- Writing – experiment by composing new dinosaur names, possibly to describe their own designs e.g 'Meanosaurus' or using their own names e.g. 'Oliverosaurus'. List adjectives to describe a dinosaur (can be scribed or written independently). 'Who am I?' Children to write a description of a dinosaur for the others to solve. Missing/Wanted posters describing dinosaur.
- Children can will begin to learn how to form sentences and caption and practise forming letters correctly.
- Children will be partaking in guided reading sessions to help them use their phonic skills to read a range of familiar and common words.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional Development**

ELG - Children show sensitivity to others' needs and feelings, and form positive relationships with adults and other children

#### Activities

- Discuss the importance of looking after our world and caring for the environment
- What does the term 'extinct' mean? How can we help endangered species?
- Discuss attributes required to be a palaeontologist e.g. patience, perseverance etc and link to school's 10 personal goals.

### **Knowledge and Understanding of the World**

40-60+months - Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change.

#### Activities

- Children will use an atlas or globe to locate where dinosaur fossils have been found (within role play).
- Children will discuss changes caused by time. What do you think the earth looked like when dinosaurs roamed? How is it different now?
- Children will group dinosaurs according to observations e.g. horns/no horns, walks on 2 legs/ walks on 4 legs etc.

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### **Creative Development**

40-60+months - children will construct with a purpose in mind, using a variety of resources. Children will manipulate materials to achieve a planned effect. Children will develop skill of using simple tools and techniques competently.

- Children will design and create models using recycled waste e.g. toilet rolls, bottle tops etc.
- Children will explore using various materials such as paper mache and plaster of paris
- Children will compose music in response to a scene e.g. dinosaurs fleeing a volcanic eruption
- Children will create a dinosaur dance based on 'Dinosaur Rumpus'.

### **Physical Development**

40-60+months - begins to use anticlockwise movements, forms recognisable letters, holds a pencil effectively. Children will experiment with different ways of moving.

#### Activities

- Children will develop fine motor movements through digging, scraping, chipping etc. at fossils using various small tools.
- Children will develop gross motor movements to mimic various dinosaurs e.g.. Moving on all fours, on two legs, flapping wings etc.