

Activities and Learning Objectives for the Topic "All About Me"

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

For many of the new children it will be the first time that they have been separated from their parents for any length of time so we will help support to reduce anxiety (we'll help parents too!). Following routines helps and the children know that they are collected after Story Time. Also it will be the first time that some have been independent socially so we will help the new children to learn appropriate behaviour in a group providing activities promoting taking turns, sharing and respect for others. The returning children will be encouraged to help the younger ones. Each child will have a turn to take the 'All About Me' box home which they are asked to fill with their favourite toys, books, family photos etc to show and talk about with the other children. The aim is to develop a positive sense of themselves and to help the staff plan activities around the children's interests. We will follow the NSPCC Talk Pants programme as part of our child protection plans. See nspcc.org.uk/pants for more information and there will be printed information too at playgroup. It is important that the scheme is supported at home.

Communication & Language

Parents are asked to fill in a leaf to put on the Learning Tree in the entrance hall if the children have any exciting news that they would like to share with the other children. Again this helps the staff know of the children's interests while helping to develop their confidence in talking to a group. There will be an emphasis on activities that encourage listening skills in varying situations easing the new ones in gradually.

Physical Development

Every day there will be different activities such as construction toys, lacing cards, puzzles, mark making to develop fine motor skills and activities such as PE games, climbing equipment, yoga, parachute play, balance bikes to promote gross motor skills. We can play outside most days as playgroup can provide protective wear for rainy weather. The children are also introduced to basic ideas about healthy eating and the need for such things as washing hands to stay healthy. As part of the Change4Life plan we will try to introduce the 10 Minute Shake Ups each day. There are a lot of fun clips on www.nhs.uk/10-minute-shake-up-shakeups with CBBC and Disney characters to do at home. There will also be activities introduced from the new guidance Movement Environment Rating Scale for 2-6 year old provision which coordinates PE with other areas of the curriculum.

Literacy

We will concentrate on two books that encourage a positive self image: 'I Like Myself' and 'I Like Me'. The children will be encouraged to bring in their favourite books to share and they can borrow books from our 'Library'. We will read books about and discuss different basic emotions and the children will be asked to think of things that make them happy/sad/cross etc. We will also read the many stories with pants as a theme to reinforce the PANTS message. Throughout the year we will use activities from the Letters and Sounds Phonics programme.

Mathematics

Following the playgroup routine will help the children to develop a sense of time and some of those routines include regular maths activities such as counting the children at snack time and working out if there are more boys or girls. We will use the sand timers when completing the PE exercises and as a focus for sharing and taking turns. We will also introduce numbers with counting songs.

Understanding the World

The 'All About Me' box will encourage the children to talk about their family and relations. We will concentrate on developing a sense of the similarities and differences between themselves and others.

Expressive Arts & Design

The children will be able to try a variety of new creative activities within drawing, painting, music, dance, puppets, storytelling, role play and form their own preferences and favourites to return to. These can be individual or social activities.