

Spring 1 - Wonderful Winter

Introduction

This term's "**Wonderful Winter**" theme will take children on a journey to explore wintertime and bears from around the world. Through various engaging activities, stories, and creative projects, children will learn about different bear species, winter habitats, and themes of hibernation and survival. Thank you for joining us as we dive into the fascinating world of winter and bears!

Communication and Language

Storytelling and Retelling: Children will retell familiar bear stories using props and puppets, building a bear-themed small world for imaginative play. Stories like *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, *Peace at Last*, and *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* will be acted out and discussed, focusing on story sequencing, rhyming, and prepositions.

Rhyming and Rhythmic Activities: Activities inspired by 'This is the Bear' and the 'Picnic Lunch' will support children's understanding of rhyming patterns. They will also explore story maps, sentence writing, and create their own bear-themed tales.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Respecting Differences and Empathy: Children will discuss and learn about families, understanding the importance of caring for others and expressing gratitude.

HeartSmart: This term's HeartSmart topic, "Too Much Selfie Isn't Healthy!", will encourage children to understand the importance of empathy, gratitude, and kindness. Activities will include discussing families, exploring feelings, and learning ways to show appreciation for others. Additionally, there will be a focus on oral hygiene, including a visit from a dental nurse to demonstrate teeth cleaning.

Physical Development

Fine Motor Skills: Children will engage in bear-themed fine motor activities like threading, rolling playdough with bear cutters, and creating split pin bears. They'll practice skills like doing up button and zips by dressing teddy bears.

Gross Motor Skills: Inspired by *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, children will create dances and engage in bear-themed movement games, imitating bear actions like walking on all fours or standing on hind legs.

Pirate-Themed Movement and Coordination: In the "ipractice Pirate Adventure" unit, children will embark on a pirate-themed journey aboard the Jolly Pirate ship. They'll engage in activities that develop movement skills such as running, jumping, hopping, and skipping. This unit focuses on building strength, balance, and coordination, teaching children to navigate space and obstacles safely while learning persistence, resilience, and how to try their best. Fundamental movement skills covered include coordination (footwork and

Spring 1 - Wonderful Winter

Literacy

Phonics Practice: We will continue using Supersonic Phonic Friends, introducing digraphs such as ch, sh, th, ng, oo, ar, or, ai, ee, igh, oa, ur, and ow. Tricky words will include: they, my, by, some, come, are, all, so, and do. Children will practice blending sounds for reading, as well as reading and writing captions and sentences.

Story Engagement: Children will engage with non-fiction bear fact books, learning to research and compile bear facts. Story activities will include writing and drawing favourite parts of the story, acting out events, and making story maps.

Mathematics

Number Work: Learning about numbers 9 and 10, children will compare numbers to 10 and explore number bonds to 10.

Measurement and Shape: Activities will include comparing mass and capacity, giving children practical experiences in measuring and comparing objects in fun, hands-on ways.

agility) and dynamic balance on low apparatus.

Understanding the World

Bear Habitats and Hibernation: Children will learn about different bear species, such as polar bears, brown bears, pandas, and sun bears, using a globe to locate their natural habitats. We will discuss hibernation, bear habitats, and the differences between wild bears and teddy bears.

Science Experiments: Children will engage in winter-themed science experiments, including investigating gummy bears and exploring ice. They'll also make porridge (linked to *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*), experimenting with different toppings and discussing their favourite.

Expressive Arts and Design

Bear-Themed Art: Creative activities will include bear footprint potato painting, colour mixing to create wintery bear scenes, and making bear heads out of paper plates. Children will also perform *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* with instruments to enhance their storytelling.

Role-Play and Construction: Children will act out *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, constructing chairs and beds for teddy bears using building materials to foster imaginative play.