



Foundation Stage Topic Web – Spring 1

'Lost and Found'

'Pets'



Memorable experiences – Handling real fish

	What we will be covering in class	Supporting your child's learning at home.
Engage	We will start with the children's own experiences of snow and ice, through real experience in the classroom, and also by using clips from films like Frozen and TV programmes such as Pingu. We will launch our topic with some ice experiments and opportunities to play with artificial snow and toys frozen in ice. We will use stories to stimulate the children's engagement with characters, settings and feelings by reading stories with a similar theme of friendship.	<p>Our work this term has been designed to develop the children's communication, language and literacy by providing them with a lot of first hand experiences to talk about.</p> <p>Please continue to read at least 3 times a week with your child and please practice their phonics. Many of the children are beginning to make rapid progress so please help them by giving them a reason to read and write at home – reading clues to find things, writing a list, reading and writing labels about pets or anything that they are interested in. Your child could write labels to stick on their favourite toys – ask them to sound out e.g c-ar-s d-o-l-s j-u-n-g-u-l (don't worry about correct spelling at this stage – just use the sounds that your child knows)</p>
Develop	The children will develop their understanding of how to care for living things by considering the needs of a poor frozen penguin, the needs and feelings of their own friends. This will then be developed through considering the needs of pets (pets at home, and also our own guinea pig)	
Innovate	The children will use their experiences to imitate and change stories about a penguin, developing their language and speech patterns. The children will have the opportunity to apply their understanding of looking after pets in our Pet Shop role play. The children will use their experiences to create their own stories and information posters about pets.	
Express	We will be unable to enjoy our usual Pet Roadshow where we invite parents to bring pets from home in to school for a visit, but we will be asking the children to share their pets on Tapestry – we will show the photos and videos to the class. The children will have the opportunity to tell their friends about their pet and to answer any questions that the children have.	

Mathematical Development

We will be focusing on calculation skills, comparing amounts of objects and working out what 1 more or 1 less would be. We will present the children with maths problems where they will have to decide whether they need to add or take away to solve the problem, and also how many they might need to add or take away. We will expect children to work with more accuracy this term, applying their knowledge of number to new situations. We will cover shape space and measures through our topic work. We will also explore positional language, saying where items are in relation to each other – e.g. behind, in front of, beside, under, on top of etc. In Maths mastery we will be working on Numbers 5 and 6, discovering different ways to split the amounts into smaller numbers (for example exploring the composition of 5 and 5 and 0, 4 and 1, 3 and 2) In doing this we will also be adding, subtracting, halving and doubling.

Communication and language

The children will be expected to listen to stories with increasing attention and recall, answering questions specific to the text in order to develop their understanding of what they are hearing or reading themselves. Adults will be supporting the children to use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences in play situations. Through guided activities we will be encouraging the children to use talk to organise, sequence and clarify their thinking, ideas, feelings and events.

Literacy

Fiction: Creative Writing: The children will become familiar with selected stories, which we will then change in order to create our own versions. This will support the children to become more independent in developing their own ideas. They will create and use story maps in order to remember the important parts of the stories that we have read together.
Non-Fiction: Instructions and information
The children will explore the differences between story books and information books about penguins and pets. They will create their own information posters about what a pet needs to be healthy, happy and safe.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Through the topic Lost and Found we will be focusing on feelings, discussing what things make us feel happy, sad, and angry and talking about what we can do when we have those feelings. This will lead us to thinking about the needs of others – from being a good friend to someone, thinking what we could do to cheer up the penguin, and considering how we can care for each other. We will develop the children’s independence and resilience – supporting them not to give up when they find things difficult but to keep trying until they succeed.

Physical Development

We will continue with our *Shake up wake up!* physical exercises which focus on posture and stamina, developing the strength and control in their shoulder, arm and finger muscles. These include Island Adventure, Dough disco and Go Noodle exercises. Our handwriting practice will focus on forming ‘robot’ and ‘curly caterpillar’ letters correctly.



Understanding the World

We will explore the properties of ice and snow through messy play and ice experiments. We will make seed cakes to support the birds in winter and we will handle real fish. We will learn about penguins and Antarctica, reading story and information books We will also have a bit of a Frozen theme running through our topic, role play and small world play.
We will share our own experiences of pets we have or pets that we know, looking at what we need to do in order to care for a pet.

Expressive arts and design

The children have music and movement every day, during which time we develop a sense of rhythm, using instruments. The children will develop their design and technology skills by using small junk to make something to cheer up our sad little penguin. The children will use paint and paper techniques to create a penguin collage.
The children will have continuous opportunities to develop their language, expression and role play in various settings.
The children will have free access to creative materials every day.

Key Dates:

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