

Our topic in Reception is Winter and polar animals. Here are some ways you can help support your child's learning at home:



Winter

Stories about penguins and winter. Information books about penguins and winter.



Personal Social Emotional Development

- We are going to talk about our Christmas Experience- Talk to your child about the things they have done over Christmas, their favourite toy, Christmas dinner etc
- We are learning to always listen to others and to take turns in conversation- model this and really praise your child for listening and paying attention and waiting their turn to speak.

Communication and Language/ Literacy

- When talking about things your child has done at school really encourage your child to speak in full, grammatically correct sentences.
- Help your child to answer 'why' 'how' 'who' 'what' 'where' questions about stories and our topic.
- Help your child to build up their vocabulary- we will be naming and describing lots of things linked to winter.

Physical Development

- We are trying very hard to always hold our pencil correctly (between thumb and first two fingers- tripod grip)- really encourage your child to hold their pencil correctly- we will be drawing a picture and writing about our Christmas experience.
- When your child writes their name, or words please ensure that they form all letters correctly- all letters start at the top!
- We will be practising our cutting skills- cutting and collaging lots of different winter scenes!

Maths

- Help your child count forwards and backwards to 20. Say 1 more/ 1 less than any number
- We are learning to recognise numbers to 10 and beyond- Help your child to first of all recognise numbers to 10 then move onto beyond 10. They must understand what each number represents so always ask them to count out some objects to match the number.
- We are learning to write our numbers- Help your child to write their numbers at home.
- We will be learning about the composition of numbers to 10 - how many ways can you make each number? For example $6 = 5+1, 4+2, 3+3 \dots$

Understanding the world

- We will be reading lots of stories about winter and discussing winter clothes, activities and weather. Talk to your child about these things too! **Go for a winter walk - what can you find?**
- We will be learning about polar animals and wild animals in our local environment. Find out which animals hibernate during winter!
- Help your child to understand the 4 seasons and changes within them. **Look at the bare trees.**
- We will continue to chant the days of the week and the months of the year every day - which month is your birthday in?

Expressive Arts and Design

- We will be drawing pictures from our stories and choosing sensible colours for colouring in.
- We will practise our cutting skills- making snowflakes, collage of winter clothes, mobile of arctic animals.
- We will be making shiny white playdough and designing snowmen.

Things to remember:

Bring your phonic folder every day. We will begin phase 3 letters and sounds; this involves learning the digraphs (2 letters make 1 sound) and trigraphs (3 letters make 1 sound). **Sound book Two** will be added at the end of the week. **Please go through both sound books regularly with your child and think of words containing the sounds.**

