

Year group: Reception

Term: Spring 1

Project title: Animal Adventures

Project and Exhibition: Dog Show

Project synopsis:

The children will be focussing on a power of reading text that looks at caring for a pet dog. Using the text as a base the children will learn about how to care for dogs and other pets. We will also be learning how dogs help us.

Communicating learning:

The children will hold a dog agility show that parents will be invited to.

Learning will be evidenced in floor books.

Project outcomes:

The book is a touching and memorable read and children will enjoy sharing the book and talking about the story together, exploring the emotions of the dog settling in its new home and connecting this with their own emotions.

Curriculum opportunities:

Reading and Writing:

- Read and understand simple sentences.
- Use phonics knowledge to decode regular words and read them aloud accurately.
- Read some common irregular words.
- Demonstrate understanding when talking with others about what they have read.
- Use phonic knowledge to write words in ways which match their spoken sounds.
- Write some irregular common words.
- Write simple sentences which can be read by themselves and others
- Spell some words correctly and make phonetically plausible attempts at others.

Maths:

- Children count reliably with numbers from 1-10.
- Children use everyday language to talk about size, weight and capacity to compare quantities and objects and to solve problems.
- Place numbers in order and say which number is one more or one less than a given number.
- Using quantities and objects, they add and subtract two single-digit numbers and count on or back to find the answer.
- Weighing and measuring dogs.
- Ordinal numbers, 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc.

Listening and Attention:

- Listens attentively in a range of situations.
- Listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events and respond to what they hear with relevant comments, questions or actions.
- Give their attention to what others say and respond appropriately, while engaged in another activity.

Understanding:

- Follow instructions involving several ideas or actions.
- Answer 'how' or 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.

Speaking:

- Express themselves effectively, showing awareness of listeners' needs.
- Use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future.
- Develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events.

Physical Development:

- Explore how to travel on, around, under and through small scale equipment when taking dogs around the agility course. Blancing, crawling, jumping and weaving.
- The importance of exercise and sleep for dogs and for us as humans.
- Use cutters to make dog kibble and small bone treats.

Understanding the World

- Encourage children to talk about their own experiences with dogs and other pets. What do these animals have in common with each other? What do they have in common with us as humans? Explore things that we all need to stay alive, comfortable and healthy.
- Share own experiences of visiting the Doctors and Dentist. We will look at dogs being weighed, having teeth checked, having injections.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Explore the illustrations of Salvatore Rubbino. Look at his use of paint to create different effects to show the characteristics of each dog, particularly on the endpapers.
- Look at the different brush strokes made and allow children to explore making these themselves. Drier paint makes the brush strokes more pronounced.
- Allow them to explore and experiment with watercolours to paint their own dogs using photos and videos as a reference point.
- Paint alongside the children talking about shapes, patterns and effects that you are creating and reinforcing the names of the physical features of the dog.

Engagement Activity:

A visit from the PDSA.
Visits from staff pet dogs.
Working towards earning our PDSA Get Pet Wise award.

Key Vocab:

Welfare, care, needs, pet, owner, healthy, exercise, agility.

How you can help:

Explore the different breeds of dogs, how many can you name?
Visit a friend or family member who has a dog and ask them how they care for them.
Watch a dog agility show, like crufts on you tube.