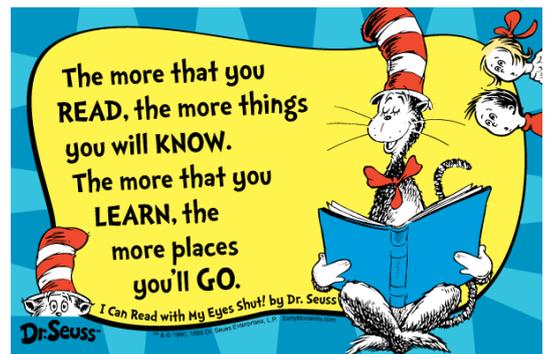
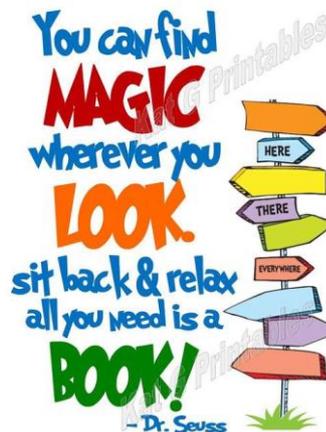
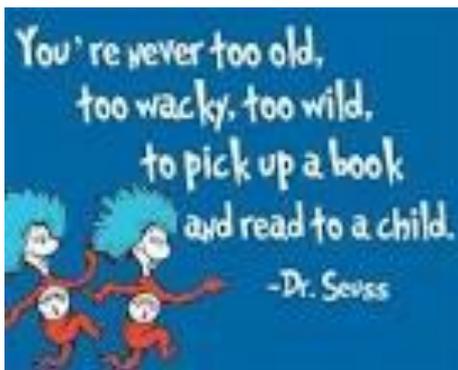


Love for Reading COVID – 19 Home Learning Ideas

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope that you all have enjoyed last weeks topic that was Dinosaurs, but if you decided to carry on having Easter holiday fun, then that is also brilliant news, as it's key to be happy at these uncertain times and making memories together. If you did join in with last weeks learning of dinosaurs, we hope you have put your learning, and fun onto tapestry, so we can see it and comment on it too.

This week's home learning is all about reading, and the love of reading. There's some fantastic quotes by Dr. Seuss about reading that I would like to share with you:



The beautiful thing about reading, is where your imagination can take you, so imagine how a child feels when you read to them! The amazing thing about reading to a child, is they will never judge you for how silly you are being, or the voices of the characters you're putting on, they will just love that you are reading to them and letting their imagination run wild!

As you know at Norcot, we add books to every topic we do, as you can gain so much learning from print, and stories. Do you have an area for your child/ children to curl up with a book? If not, why don't you use this weeks topic to create a reading area for them. A place to feel comfortable, relaxed, and snuggled up for story time, or just to flick through the pages.

We are continuing to post teaching videos, songs and activities on our Norcot Facebook page; they can also be found on the Norcot Early Years website as well. So please do watch them with your child/ children if you need any inspiration for ideas to do or if you want to be able to entertain your child for 10 minutes while you have a little rest!

Can we just express again, how amazing we think you are all doing, with helping your children to learn, manage the house, and managing your own work loads too. So from

Norcot we want to give you a big clap, pat on the back, a whoop whoop and you even get a special Norcot shimmy, so hands on your hips, 1,2,3, shimmy!!!! Remember, you have got this, and whatever you can do is fantastic! Keep going!

Please keep making sure that you all keep well and find time to rest as well. Being kind to yourselves is just as important as being kind to each other.

Many thanks for your co-operation,

Lian Robinson-Ryan

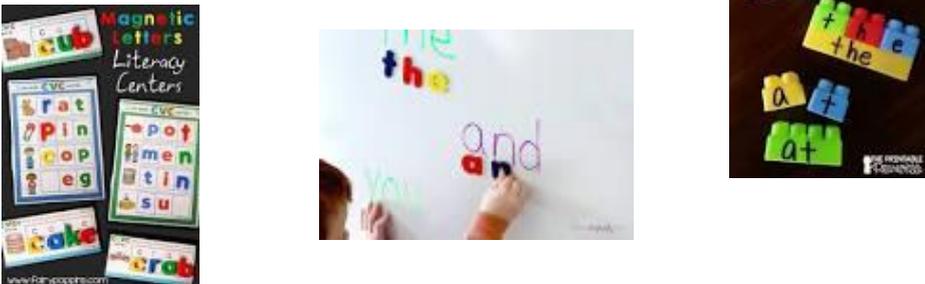
Team leader of Star room and staff governor

Love of reading Ideas for week 4 of isolation: 20.04.2020

Area of Development	Activities your children can engage with
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep giving your child/ children jobs to do around the house. It's good for them to keep having responsibilities and it helps you out too! If it carries on being sunny they could help you to wash the car on the drive if you have one, they will love it! Carry on the jobs of planting seeds/ watering seeds if you have a garden or a plant shelf. • At nursery our children help to tidy up their toys while we put the Tidy Up Rhumba on the screen! If you want to encourage your child/children to tidy up after their play at home putting this music on might help. I'll put the Youtube link here to help: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dhw6JDF4A0Q • When looking at the stories, encourage your children to talk about how the characters might be feeling, if they are happy, or sad, scared/ worried, angry etc. Maybe if it's a story like Goldilocks and the three bears, talk about Goldilocks not listening to her mummy, and is it safe for her to go into a stranger's house? Maybe ask what should she have done? Then look at the bears, baby bear was sad, but mummy and daddy were cross and scared someone was in there house. This could link back to calling the police for help, as someone has intruded. • Encourage your children to share their own stories they may have made up, or drawn. Let them tell you about the stories/ pictures they have drawn, maybe they could look in a mirror and copy their facial expressions if they want their character to look cross, or sad etc. • Use mirrors to encourage your children to understand what happy, sad, cross, worried, angry looks like. You may have to demonstrate this to them, and then reassure them that it's ok to feel the way they are feeling. This may come in useful when talking about going to big school in September, or moving up rooms in nursery. • Remember to keep trying to participate in healthy exercises, as this relieves stress and tension your children might have built up from not being able to go out as normal. Again, Joe wicks PE on youtube is great, or even try some kids yoga. There's plenty of them on youtube.
Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a look at different types of books, talk about the structure of the story with you child/ children, for example, what happened at the start? What happened in the middle? And what was the ending? Etc

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child/ children to join in with repeated phrases from the stories, for example for the gingerbread man, they can say “run, run as fast as you can, you can’t catch me, I’m the gingerbread man!” • Talk to your child about what they liked about the story or pictures, or the recipes they followed and why? Don’t forget to put their opinions onto tapestry so we can hear them too. • Encourage your child/ children to make up their own stories, and to read them out loud to you, using familiar sayings such as “once upon a time....” And “the end” etc • Recap with your child all the different topics they have learnt this term, if you need help remembering to then visit our website www.norcoteearlyyearscentre.co.uk and click to find our planning. Ask them if there were any particular stories they liked? For example, a diary of a wombat from Australia week? A traditional tale? Harry’s bucketful of dinosaurs? Etc and again discuss why they liked the topic and story and see if you can find any other books that link to those topics. • When sitting down at dinner, if your child helped you to cook following a recipe, see if they can remember the ingredients they had to add and the step-by-step directions they had to do. • Encourage your children to role play a character from their favourite story and rein-act in using familiar phrases, or for them to dress up and put on a different voice to play the role of a character. • Have a discussion about what everyone’s favourite story is at meal time and ask them to explain why. • Read some storybooks together and discuss what the children can see in the pictures and see if they make comments on what they hear from the story.
<p>Physical Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving and Handling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child/ children to pretend to be a knight, a dragon, a Prince or Princess, an animal what ever story character they would like to be, and for them to be creative with making props, such as, having a sword fight, or making a castle for the King and Queen etc • You could make a story walk inside or in the garden, for example bear hunt, you may have soil for the mud, a bowl of water for the river, ripped up white paper for the snow etc, and encourage them to listen and walk through the story with you. Be as imaginative as you can. You can encourage them to help you create the story walks. • I would highly recommend continuing to participate in the PE sessions with Joe Wicks every weekday at 9am. They’re continuing to be fab and he’s even doing fancy dress sessions on Friday so the children have been loving it! • Oti Mabuse has also set up free kids dance classes from 11:30 – 12:14 (there are lots on youtube that you can watch and do together.) So if you fancy taking up a new hobby with your family, put on your dancing shoes and give it a go! • You could go onto youtube and look up cosmic yoga. She great, she tells stories, whilst doing very simple yoga moves, it’s great for everyone to join in with....yes mum’s and dad’s, that means you too! No excuses! • If you have child friendly scissors, or you sit with your children and do hand over hand helping with adult scissors, then they could cut out pictures from magazines, or colouring in sheets you could print off to help them create their story board/ stories. • If you have any chinks, your child could have a go at drawing your characters/ stories outside on the floor.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For our Learning through nature side, you can encourage your child to find four big sticks and lay them down like a picture frame, and using natural materials, they can create a picture, even a picture from their favourite story. • Encourage your children to create their own snug area for reading. Reading should be a place where it feels safe, secure and snuggly, so they can get really settled whilst reading stories.
<p>Physical Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and self care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As germs are still largely at bay at the moment, keep reminding your child/ children to wash their hands thoroughly using the baby shark song to help them: palm to palm, back to back, interlock, fingertips, now your thumbs, now your wrists, rinse your hands, dry your hands. • Encourage your child to choose the clothes that they want to wear for the day and see if they can start to get dressed for themselves as there is a lot of extra time in the day at the moment. They might need extra instructions with putting on certain items of clothes, especially with doing up buttons and pulling up zips on coats etc. But taking the time to help them practise this now will help them get ready for school when they will have to get changed for their PE sessions. • Again encourage your children to try dress themselves if they want to dress up in role play clothes, they may need help with the Velcro at the back. • As the weather is heating up, talk about appropriate clothing, and what do you think they need to wear? A woolly hat or a sun hat? Shorts or trousers? Also, encourage your child to start helping to apply their own sun cream, as those going to school in September will need to be able to help with this in the warmer months. • Why don't you look up some of your favourite cooking recipes and read them together, breaking down the step-by-step instructions given. This is perfect opportunity for us to spiral back on the learning that we've done for the term, so maybe look up a nice Chinese stir fry to cook up, or follow instructions on how to make pancakes, etc.
<p>Literacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As this weeks topic is ALL about reading and books, encourage your child to pick their favourite book, and ask them questions, such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - why do you like this book? - Who is your favourite character and why? - Maybe see if they can remember the story just from looking at the pictures in the book - After you read their favourite story to them, so if they can recall it back to you - Talk to them about your favourite book and why? • Look at all different kinds of books, and media, such as visual stories, BBC iplayer do a lot of the Julia Donaldson stories, recipes, atlas', fact books, pop up books, musical books etc . Encourage your children to see there is a whole range of print out there that gives us information. • Take this time to go back onto our website www.norcoteearlyyearscentre.co.uk and go onto our planning and see the topics we have covered, and link them to stories you could read, or watch on a tablet, laptop or phone. This is what Ofsted are looking for; they want us to be recalling past topics, into new topics, so it forms a spiral of learning for your child. • Read your children alternative versions of their favourite stories, for example, there's Three little wolves and the big bad pig. Have a search and see what other ones you can find together. • Keep a look out on our Facebook page for more stories from the staff,

	<p>and don't forget to either give the story a thumbs up or a thumbs down, or tell us what you liked and didn't like about the story on tapestry. We look forward to hearing from you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find props around the house that you could use to create your own story, draw pictures to tell the story, take photos using a tablet or phone, draw chalk pictures on the floor/ board. Put them on tapestry so we can listen and read your creative stories. • Encourage your child to start writing more, not just their name, but give them some easy words they can copy, to help them to write their own stories. • Have a tray/ plate which can have flour, or salt in for your child to mark make in, to practice forming their letters. You can start by encouraging them to use their finger, then maybe holding a lollipop stick, or stick, then onto holding a pencil or pen as they create letters or marks in the tactile material. • If you have magnetic letters like you get on your fridge, encourage your child to use these to help them visually see the letters to copy. • There's great ideas out there to help your child such as: <p>https://www.pinterest.com/pin/225672631305241457/</p> <p>https://www.pinterest.com/pin/50243352075955265/</p> 
Maths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When looking at the books, discuss with your child if it is small book or a big book? Is it a long story or a short story? • This is a great time to be using recipe books, and getting back in the kitchen with your children, cooking up a storm! Talk about the different weights that are needed in the ingredients, ask them which is the largest quantity or ingredients, for example, is it flour or sugar? Ask your child to hold the ingredients and get them to discuss the weight of them, for example, butter is usually heavy, but one egg is light etc. • If you are following a biscuits recipe why don't you use different shaped cutters and talk about how many sides does this square biscuit have? How many points are in these star biscuits? Etc • Reading the recipe instructions, ask your child to turn the cooker to the correct heat, and set a timer to alarm you to check on your food etc • When reading stories such as Goldilocks and the three bears, you can do 1:1 counting when looking at the bears, talk about the sizing of the bears, bowls, spoons, chairs, beds etc • You could use your scales to measure not only ingredients, but toys they have around the house to find out which one is heavier.
Understanding the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your children to set up their own story trays, or blankets. Encourage them to make props to help set the scene, and add to the story, and then encourage them to be the narrator as they move around their set up scene. You could do this as a whole family, and

	<p>everyone take on a character role.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about the “unsafe” parts of the story, for example, little red riding hood walking alone in the woods, followed by a wolf, or Goldilocks going to a house that doesn't belong to her, or being chased by the bear in bear hunt. • Keep encouraging your children to look after the plants/ seeds that they may have planted following Rukni's video “preparing for Harvest”, and explain why they need to water them, and give them sun light. • Encourage your children to use ICT to create their stories, either take photos of the scenes for the story, or take photos of each page of their book, or film them reading their favourite stories to the family or just to themselves • Use technology to watch their favourite stories come to life, such as Gruffalo, or Stick man which can be found on BBC iplayer or some of you may have them on DVD.
Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is when your child can show off their fantastic creative side. Encourage them to create their own books, from designing the front cover, to writing/ telling you the story so you can write the script, and even drawing their own illustrations. We want to see these amazing creations, so please upload them to tapestry so we can see and listen to your stories. • Encourage your child to sit and film themselves reading the stories they have created to share with us on tapestry • This is time for lots of role play with your children, encouraging them to use language from their favourite books, and take on the role of the character. Use any recycling you have to create props for the story, such as making castles, or creating a Chinese dragon, or the Great Wall of China, or the Sydney opera house etc. • If you have paints, pens, glitter, then get as messy and creative as you can designing you characters, or even making your own outfits • Put on a play for you family to watch and join in with, and take it in turns to perform. • Play games such as Pictionary guessing favourite stories, which encourages your children to draw how they interpret the story to look like

Please add any observations onto your child's Tapestry account so that we can see all of the fun and learning that your child gets up to at home. Thanks in advance, Lian 😊

Spiral learning

This week we would like you to try what we call as spiral learning. This is where, you recap with your child our previous topics, and incorporate them into this week's topic books, for example:

Monday- Read a book linked to Artic week, this could be Lost and found, it could be a fact book on the Artic.

Tuesday- Read a book linked to Chinese New Year, this could be reading recipes to make your own Chinese dinner. This could Dragon dance, My first Chinese New Year etc

Wednesday- Read a book linked Australia, this could be Diary of a wombat, K is for Kangaroo, The enormous crocodile etc

Thursday- Read a book linked to love, and the people we care for, so it could be reading a key worker book, such as Peppa pig and the fire engine, guess how I love you, guess how much I love you in the spring, Peppa pig, my mummy, Peppa pig, my daddy etc

Friday- Read a book linked to either Easter, or Dinosaurs, for example The dinosaur that pooped a planet, Harry's bucketful of dinosaurs, that's not my dinosaur, the Easter story, oh dear, etc

Remember to have fun when reading, and to ask your children to recap on their learning about the topics at nursery and see what they can tell you.

Website links you can go to for further resources:

If you click on the link below it will take you to a website that has the entire list of education companies offering free subscriptions due to school closings. They provide direct links for you below. All you need to do is click the link and follow the instructions on that website to sign-up.

<https://kidsactivitiesblog.com/135609/list-of-education-companies-offering-free-subscriptions/?fbclid=IwAR0cLZIW8pqpfZZAOK1DSFcDfIQaxcyVqWWOHejF38y5tJVVRvXldQqvwZk>

Please have a look and see which resources you think would be most helpful to you and your child. When you click on the link of the title, it might need to redirect you but they should work!

Some of these website links will be more suitable for any older siblings in the family.

When you go to the website I would highly recommend Twinkl as a brilliant resource!

Twinkle is giving parents a free log in that they can use at the moment and they provide a whole range of print out sheets from colouring pages to counting activity sheets to fact sheets that you might find helpful to use with your child during this time.

Here are some other great sites offering free resources that you can print off to use with your child which are relevant to the early years curriculum and look great! There will be loads of useful resources on these sites that are suited for younger children's learning.

<https://www.earlyyearsresources.co.uk/downloadables-c275>

<https://www.earlylearninghq.org.uk/>

<https://littleowlsresources.com/>

<https://www.early-education.org.uk/download-free-resources>

<https://www.earlylearningfurniture.co.uk/free-resources/>

www.naturallylearning.co.uk

<https://small-talk.org.uk/>