



Dear family, here are this week's ideas and suggestions that you can embrace together at home and therefore provide a consistent approach to accelerate your child's learning.

Characteristics of Effective Learning skills:

These are key 'life skills' that underpin all the areas of learning.

This half term we will focus on...

'Participating in routines'

This week we will focus on incorporating sorting into our routine activities. For example, during snack time, you could ask your child to sort their snacks by type or by size. "Can you put all the big grapes into one pile and the small grapes in another pile?" This is also an opportunity to enhance your child's use of describing words (adjectives) into their everyday routine.

Challenge activity to try at home:

Thinking about lunch – Lunchtime is a huge part of our daily routine and helping your child choose what food in their lunch box helps them become more independent. Talk about healthy options and practice some of the skills involved like undoing the packets or taking the lid of their yogurt. When they are finished, encourage them to place their rubbish in the bin. This is all good practice for lunch times at nursery too and will help your child to feel happy and confident with this part of their daily routine.



4th April is International Carrot Day inspiring many of us to eat this healthy crunchy snack. This is a fun opportunity for you to talk to your child about making healthy food choices. What snacks are their favourite? What other vegetables do they enjoy? Can they use their sorting skills to sort fruit and vegetables?



Books of the week:



Maisy Loves Birds

Why not head out into the garden and see what birds you can hear?

[Bird song identification: UK garden birds - Woodland Trust](#)

Book bag challenge question at home:

The following questions revisit and build on vocabulary development.

"Find another strawberry like this/what's this? "This is an apple. (point to the object on the page) Show me some other green fruits."

This extends your child's learning from naming an object to being able to categorise objects according to their descriptions.

Helpful hints to help your child at home:

- Always talk about what the child is looking at in the book.
- Give your child time to think and respond.
- Model clearly the new word in a sentence. EG: "Yes, there is the green kiwi fruit."



Magical Moments:

Red group have been learning to make different pet sounds and joining in with the new songs.

Song of the week:

Little ducks go quack, quack, quack Quack, quack, quack, Quack, quack, quack – Little ducks go quack quack quack In the springtime. Sung to: "London Bridge"



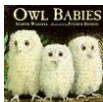
Five Little Ducks

Helpful hints to help your child at home:

Why not try singing this song with props? You could use ducks in the bath? Or use your fingers to show the five ducks and take away one each time.

A special thank you to everyone who has sent in pictures of their pets! We have received so many which has been great for us to see, print and then chat to the children about. We are appreciative of all of them!

Book of the week:



Owl Babies

Book bag challenge activity at home:

Revisit the following questions which focus on developing 'describing words' (Adjectives)

"Show me a red/green apple please?/Which animal is tall?"

Helpful hints to help your child at home:

- There are many groups of describing words and although it is important to help children to use these from all groups. (Size, colour, shape, position., movement, texture etc) it is also important to **just focus on a few describing words at a time.**
- **Keep modelling** – Expand their phrases by adding adjectives. EG: 'Look, a sheep.' **Adult** – 'Yes, look, a fluffy sheep.'

Songs of the week:



Five feathered birds



Two little blackbirds sitting on a wall One named Peter and one named Paul Fly away Peter, fly away Paul, Come back Peter, come back Paul.

Helpful hints to help your child at home: Keep giving your child a **choice** of songs to sing. **Remember** you can watch our songs on Eylog.

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Magical Moments:

Learning about pets, the book for last week was such a huge hit! We have learned more about different pets each day as the children have asked more and more thoughtful, interesting questions as the week has progressed.

Book of the week



Birds – An information book on birds.

Book bag challenge activity at home:

Revisit the following questions which focus on developing 'describing words' (Adjectives) **"Show me a red/green apple please?/Which animal is tall?"**

Helpful hints to help your child at home:

- There are many groups of describing words and although it is important to help children to use these from all groups. (Size, colour, shape, position., movement, texture etc) it is also important to **just focus on a few describing words at a time.**
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Songs of the week:

Five feathered birds sitting on the door; One flew away and then there were four. Four feathered birds singing in the tree, One flew away and then there were three. Three feathered birds looking at you, One flew away and then there were two. Two feathered birds sitting in the sun, One flew away and then there was one. One feathered bird looking like a hero, He flew away and now there are zero!



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Diary Dates - A reminder that next week is our final week before the Easter break which is two weeks and one day, due to Easter Monday falling in the week we return. The car park has now been tarmacked and is on track to re-open in the middle of next week. April is **National Stress Awareness month** so we will be practising our breathing techniques and yoga poses!