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**Class:** Parrot – Green Class

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## Imaginative Play

“Over the last 75 years, a number of theorists and researchers have identified the values of such imaginative play as a vital component to the normal development of a child.”

**Activity:** Salt Dough

**Suggestion:** Help your child make salt dough, using the recipe below. Let your child be creative using the dough: creating animals from everyday objects with their hands; they can use cookie cutters, use leaves or other objects which leave imprint/patterns in the dough. You can allow the creations to dry in the sun and paint them afterwards.

**Salt Dough Recipe:**

- 1 cup of flour
  - 1 cup of salt
  - 1/2 cup warm water
  - A few drops of food colouring if you want it coloured
1. Mix the flour and salt together then add the water and stir with a wooden spoon.
  2. When the mixture gets too hard to stir, get your hands in there and knead the dough until it's soft and pliable.
  3. The ideal thickness is about 1/2 cm. If you decide to make it thicker or thinner you would need to adjust your drying time.
  4. You can let the dough dry in the sun for a few days, or you can bake it in the oven at 100°C for a few hours until it's dried all the way through



# Ring Time – Much Repeating

“People often say that practice makes perfect. Research certainly supports this, especially in children. In fact, studies have shown that repetition can be critically important for learning in general.”

**Activity:** Colours

**Suggestion:** Make a colourful meal with your child and ask them to name all the colours as you cook together.



You could make a rainbow pizza:

- Pitta bread/pizza dough/frozen base
  - ½ cup of pizza sauce or tomato sauce
  - ½ cup of grated mozzarella
  - A rainbow of chopped vegetables e.g. tomatoes, red, yellow and orange peppers, sweetcorn, broccoli, red onion.
1. Preheat oven to 200°C
  2. Spread each base with pizza sauce and sprinkle with mozzarella cheese.
  3. Place vegetables on top to look like a rainbow.
  4. Place on a baking tray and cook until cheese has melted, and vegetables are cooked.

**Activity:** Focus letter of the week — r

**Suggestion:**

- Naming of objects around the house that start with the letter, **r**, pronounced as “/r/” for **r**abbit.
- Copy the letter **r** in a shallow bed of sand, sugar or flour as per the picture and have your child copy the shape of the letter using their finger.

The template can be accessed through Dropbox, alternatively I can send the link in the WhatsApp group.



Template: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/Focus%20letter%20r.pdf>

# Skills Time – Educational Games

“Puzzles are effectual educational materials which support children’s cognitive, language, motor, social and emotional developmental areas while fostering their creativity and selfcare skills as well as providing learning during playing with them.”

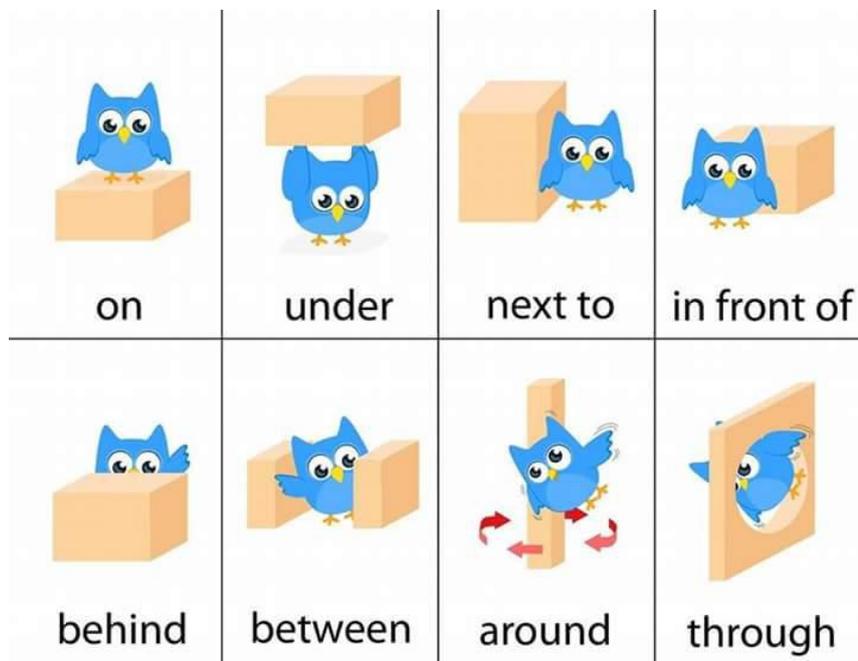
Online Puzzle: <https://www.onlinejigsawpuzzles.net>

Stepping Stone Skill: Speech and Language – Vocabulary – Position and Direction



**Activity:** Go on a “direction” scavenger hunt

**Suggestion:** This scavenger hunt is like a ramped-up version of the game Hot or Cold. Hide an object somewhere in the room or garden and instead of telling the seeker he is getting “warmer” or “colder” as they get closer to a hidden object, you should use words such as up, down, over, under, front, behind, next to, between, in, out, above, below, off and on. Once you have hidden objects and played the game a few times with your child, you can then let your child hide objects for you to find and let them call out the correct position words for you to find them.



# Gross Motor – Using Your Body

“Research indicates that gross motor skills are a major predictor of a child’s school readiness. They reflect ‘brain skills’...

**Activity:** Mini Golf at home – Hand Eye Co-ordination

**Suggestion:** The object of the game is to get the ball in the cup or hole with the least number of strokes.

What you will need:

- Golf putter
  - Your choice of balls such as tennis ball or golf balls
  - Drinking cup large enough to fit the ball in.
  - Objects to create obstacles such as sticks, rocks and toys.
1. Set up the golf course with your child and lay the cup on its side for the hole.
  2. Play golf together, taking turns.
  3. Try to change up the obstacles to make it more interesting or harder.



# Theme Time – Learning About Our World

The theme this week is Spring



**Activity:** Discuss Spring

**Suggestion:** Explain that spring is one of the four seasons and it starts on the 1 September. Talk about what happens in spring such as the weather becomes warmer and we could start to have rain, there are blossoms on fruit trees, butterflies begin to emerge, trees begin to grow their leaves, plants start to flower and young animals such as chicks and lambs are born. In spring the days get longer, animals wake up from hibernation and birds make nests to lay eggs in trees. We start to wear summer clothes, spring is a good time to plant seeds in the garden. Take a walk outside and see if you can see any signs of spring starting.



# Art – Learning Through Creativity

“Creative arts not only cultivate children’s imaginations, so that they become more flexible and inventive thinkers, but also help to develop their physical, emotional, and mental capabilities.”

**Activity:** Spring

**Suggestion:** Make a tree with popcorn blossoms on it

Items required: Tree template, crayons, popcorn, powdered food colouring (optional), icing sugar.

Tree Template: <https://www.dropbox.com/preview/Spring%20tree.pdf>

Directions:

Step 1 – Make some popcorn with your child and colour it with the powdered food colouring if you have some.

Step 2 – Print out the tree template provided or let your child draw a tree.

Step 3 – Let your child colour in the tree.

Step 4 – Make some icing using the icing sugar and a little water to make a paste.

Step 5 – Allow your child to put dots of the icing on the tree where they want the blossoms to go.

Step 6 – Stick the popcorn on the tree as the blossoms.



# Story Time – Learning to Love Books

“... storytelling and story reading were found to produce positive gains in oral language. ... young children who heard the stories told demonstrated improved story comprehension in their retelling, while children in the story reading group improved their language complexity”

## Suggested Children’s Books

Spring Has Come

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=38xwpe8NFOI>

When Spring Comes

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q\\_kNU3XpMew](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_kNU3XpMew)



# Bible Story – Learning to Love God

**Suggested Bible Reading:** Mathew 8:23-27

Jesus Calms the Storm

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYLHqdSO9OY>

Bedtime Short Stories – Jesus Calms the Storm

<https://www.bedtimeshortstories.com/jesus-calms-the-storm>

# Songs – Learning through Rhythm

## Suggested Children’s Songs

Springtime Song for Children

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iel7GpkOPo>

Children’s Spring Song

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-sfZMu3-ff4>

