

K2 THEME 1: FRIENDS AND SCHOOL (17th Aug. to 25th Sept.)

Our first topic of the year focuses on learning more about friends and school.

INTRODUCTION WEEKS

We use the first two weeks of school to gently ease the children into school life. The lessons therefore focus on making sure the children feel comfortable in their school environment. The children will spend time getting to know their friends, learning the daily routine and helping to decorate their new classroom. The children will also do a few review lessons of what they learnt in K1.

THEME LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Help, learn, friend, gift, kind, share, culture, country, language, staff, job, polite, important.

Songs: 'The more we get together,' 'Love my school' and 'Best friends.'

We will start off the year by reading a book called, 'My teacher, my friend,' reassuring the children that their teachers are there to help, support and guide them at school. The book, 'Hello,' will introduce the children to people from different places and cultures around the world. The children will practice saying hello in many different languages. This lesson will allow the children to explore and learn about our differences and our similarities. The children will find their home country on a world map and stick their name on it. They will also play a fun ball game where they need to say their name and what country they are from, encouraging the use of full sentences. The children will learn more about some of their other friends at Newton, the Newton staff. They will make a big poster for the classroom, showing pictures of all their friends. The book, 'Up the creek,' will highlight the importance of teamwork, as a group of animal friends work together to paddle a canoe up a river. We will play a team game with cups and water. The children stand in a circle and pass a set of cups, full of water, around the group. The first team to get through all the cups of water, wins. We will make two gifts for our friends, a drawing pad and a bracelet.

ART LESSONS *(sample to the right may vary from actual art work)*

In their art lessons the children will work as a team, making a collage artwork using patterns. They will also have fun creating a beautiful Autumn / Fall artwork of a leaf falling in the swirling wind.



MATH AND READING LINE LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Numbers, count, how many, oval, crescent, semi-circle, angle, straight, corners, cone, sphere and cube.

Songs: 'Let's count to 20,' 'The rectangle song' and 'The circle song.'

In their math lessons the children will start off by focusing on number value and recognition, ensuring these key concepts are in place as a solid foundation. We will also link sound to math in a fun lesson where the children will count different sounds they hear and repeat them. The teacher will review all shapes with the children and ensure shapes like crescent, oval and semi-circle can be identified and drawn. They will also work on starting to recognize the written names of the shapes. The book, 'The perfect square,' will help the children understand how shapes can be molded and changed, to create new and creative things. The children will learn how to describe shapes and about 3D shapes.

During reading line lessons, the children will read the books, 'A hat' and 'Dan ran,' teaching the phonograms -at and -an. They will also complete the respective pages in their workbooks to cement the concept and ensure understanding.

K2 THEME 2: STAYING WELL, STAYING SAFE (28th Sept. to 23rd Oct.)

Our second topic of the year focuses on learning more about how to stay healthy and safe.

THEME LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Health, safety, rules, habits, germs, exercise, manners, care, dentist, doctor, stethoscope, medicine, syringe, bandage, thermometer, Band-Aid.

Songs: "Miss Polly had a dolly", "Do you like broccoli", "The skeleton dance" & "Friends song"

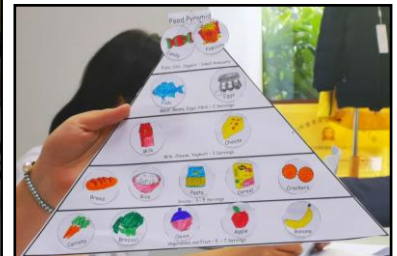
This month the teachers and children will focus on learning about health, safety, rules and good habits. They will start by reading a book called, 'Little raccoon catches a cold.' The teacher will also show the children how quickly germs can spread by using shaving cream to represent the germs. They will then discuss the best ways to help stop the spread of germs.

They will discuss how to look after their teeth and about going to the Dentist. The teacher will show the children what might happen to their teeth if they do not brush them, by doing a vinegar and egg experiment.

The classes will also discuss going to the Doctor. They will learn about the different tools a Doctor has and how he or she uses them to help make one feel better. They will read a book about first aid, make butterflies out of bandages and their own first aid kit bag.

ART LESSONS *(sample to the right may vary from actual art work)*

In their art lessons the children will make cool monsters to celebrate the tradition of Halloween. They will also make their own food pyramid, based on updated health recommendations.



MATH & READING LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Numbers, count, on, off, on top, under, above, below, in, out, inside, outside, near, far, before, after, front, behind, left, right, next to, pattern, repeat, rise, set, morning, afternoon, evening, night.

Songs: "Number dance", "Bean bag rock 'n roll", "My whole body can move" & "Cha cha slide"

In their math lessons the children will start off by counting bigger numbers, 1 – 39. As they count, they will make a tower out of connecting cubes. How many can they add on before it comes crashing to the floor?

Positional words. The teacher will use a stuffed animal and a box to tell an imaginative story about how the bear and the box go on different adventures, exploring the different positional words. The teacher will also create an obstacle course using classroom objects and furniture. The class has to guide their friend through the course by giving them directions, using positional words.

The children will learn about different patterns made with: objects, sounds, drawings and also in nature. They will do worksheets to practice completing patterns and will also have fun working in teams to create patterned wrapping paper.

Lastly, the children will discuss the different times of day and what their routines are at each stage in the day.

Their reading lessons will focus on the phonograms, 'at' with the book, 'Fat cat sat' and 'op', with the book, 'Pop.'

K2 THEME 3: EVERYTHING CHANGES (26th Oct. to 20th Nov.)

Our third topic of the year focuses on how things in life grow and change.

THEME LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: Plant, different, ground, seed, soil, roots, stem, leaves, flower, tree, trunk, branches, cactus, butterfly, egg, larva, caterpillar, chrysalis, frog, tadpole, egg, life cycle, shed, slither, stretch, snake, hibernate.

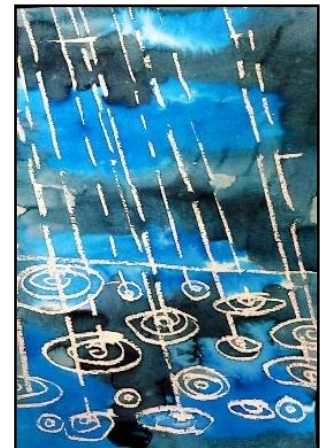
Songs: "Head, shoulders, knees and toes", "The needs of a plant", "The planting song", "Cha cha slide", "In and out the dusky bluebells", "Fly, fly butterfly", "Hole in the middle of the pond" & "The hungry caterpillar".

This theme the children will learn about all the different things that grow and change. They will start by learning about plants and trees, and how they grow and change. The book, 'The tiny seed,' will show them how it all happens. They will also make a hanging mobile, showing each step, to remind them of the process. The classes will discover the names of the different parts of the plant and what each part does. The book, 'Pips garden,' will inspire them to plant their own seeds and look after them to ensure they grow into beautiful flowers. The teacher will recite and teach the children a poem called, 'The green grass grew all around.' During the second half of the theme, the teacher will focus on different animal life cycles: The butterfly, where the children will use pasta and paper plates to creatively show the lifecycle. They will also learn a cute caterpillar finger play. The frog, learning about how a tadpole loses his tail and grows legs. Hopefully the children will get to see this amazing transition, in our school pond towards the end of summer. The classes will then look at how snakes shed their skin and how different animals find different homes for the winter, where they can hibernate. They will read a beautiful book called, 'When the earth wakes up,' which shows the hibernation process.

ART LESSONS *(sample to the right may vary from actual art work)*

In their art lessons the classes will make beautiful butterflies, using ink and coffee filters.

They will also create wonderful resistance paintings, using water colours and white pastel crayons.



MATH & READING LESSONS

Some keywords and songs you can practice with your children at home:

Keywords: One – forty-nine, Monday – Sunday, day, week, weekend, today, tomorrow, yesterday, January – December, month, year, calendar, weather, change, stormy, foggy, cloudy.

Songs: "The number dance", "Days of the week", "Months of the year" & "How's the weather".

The children will continue their goal of learning how to count to 100. They will focus on the numbers 40 to 49. They will play a counting statues game and hide and seek, to use their counting skills. The classes will learn about the days of the week, what happens during the week, what types of things we do on weekends, what happens today, what happened yesterday and what will happen tomorrow. The teacher will also show them how they can recognize the names of the different days of the week. The teacher will make a bar graph using the children's birth dates, to teach them about the months of the year. They will also learn about different events that happen on the same day, every year. Lastly the children will discuss different weather conditions and what types of things they like to do when it's sunny or windy or rainy etc.

During their reading line lessons, the children will join the teacher in reading the books, "Not dots" and "Kangaroo rat". These books will teach the children the phonograms: -ot and -at.