

Autumn 2 Curriculum Map – Winter

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Look at firework night display photos and talk about how they make us feel using simple feeling words, such as happy, sad, scared.
- Explore Christmas objects that can be handled. Encourage the children to take turns and share.
- Develop children's confidence in exploring their local area by taking children on a walk to explore Christmas decorations and lights in their neighbourhood. Encourage children to talk about what they see.

Communications and Language

- Learn some winter songs together. Can the children think of some actions to go with the songs?
- Play 'Who took the jingle bells?' game. Sit the children in a circle with a child (Santa) in the centre next to the bells. Ask Santa to close their eyes while you quietly select a child to creep into the middle and take them. Can Santa guess who took them?
- In a Christmas stocking, place a variety of festive items. Get the children to put their hand in, feel the items and guess what they are. Encourage them to describe what they can feel.

Physical Development

- Play the 'Frozen Snowmen' game. Encourage children to move around to wintry music. When the music stops, they must freeze like a snowman. Challenge them to freeze in different positions, such as standing on one leg.
- Place large sheets of paper on the floor for children to paint large fireworks.
- Talk with the children about the importance of washing your hands before making Gingerbread. Encourage children to help mix and knead the ingredients and use different tools and utensils to create the biscuits.

Literacy

- Share winter pictures alongside winter word cards and use them to inspire and collect vocabulary. Encourage children to clap syllables, hear initial sounds and collect rhyming words.
- Share a selection of Bonfire Night themed story books with the children. Draw children's attention to the language of front cover, words and pages.
- Using Christmas fairy lights rhyming words to familiarise the children with rhyming words and create a rhyming string.



Mathematics

- Use cotton wool balls to play 'snowball subitising'. Scatter up to three of the snowballs onto a table or the carpet and challenge children to tell you quickly how many there are without counting them.
- Provide circles of white paper and a selection of different coloured 2D shapes. Invite children to use the shapes to collage a picture of a snowman.
- Pretend to build a bonfire outside. Encourage each child to collect two different-sized sticks for the fire. Encourage them to compare the lengths of two sticks using the language 'big and small' or 'long and short'.

Understanding the World

- Make bird feeders and discuss why this is important during the colder months.
- Allow children time to share their own experiences of Bonfire Night and talk about the ways their family celebrated. Other children may like to share other special times they have shared with their families.
- Discuss how animals and people stay warm during the winter.

Expressive Art and Design

- Play firework sound effects or music while the children are drawing. Can they represent the loud noises and sounds?
- Make salt dough Christmas decorations with the children using various shape cutters.
- Look at the patterns and pictures on Christmas wrapping paper. The children can make their own wrapping paper by printing Christmas images on to large sheets of paper. Use foam shapes or simple potato prints.

Ideas to help at home

- Play Christmas music or your child's favourite songs and have a dance party.
- Why not build a den together! Encourage your child to talk about items they can use.
- Play hide and seek using objects instead of people, you can give clues using positional language such as its under