



Developing Children's Vocabulary

Our topic up to the end of this half term is 'Shapes'. Through a range of activities that cover all areas of learning the children will be exploring, identifying and investigating shape.

In maths activities, the pre-reception children will be looking at the different properties of 'flat', 2d shapes and learning how to identify them in terms of number of sides and corners. The children will then be investigating 'fat' 3d shapes and using them to build structures.

We will also be making patterns and sequences with different shapes and looking at sequences in everyday life such as breakfast, lunch and tea and the days of the week.

In art and design, the children will be using shapes to make their own shape patterns and pictures. The older children will be investigating sequencing by printing with solid shapes and shape outlines. We will also discuss what is meant by abstract shapes. Later in the topic the pre-reception children will explore how shape has influenced art and they will have the opportunity to recreate the work of Piet Mondrian and Henri Matisse.

In 'Understanding the World' activities, the children will investigate shapes in the environment and think about how everything we use is a shape – windows, paving stones, building bricks, boxes, packaging, paper, envelopes, bottles, plates...

In literacy, early phonics and rhyming activities will continue for the older children.

Key vocabulary –

2d, flat shapes - circle, square, rectangle, oval, star, heart, triangle, diamond

3d, fat shapes - sphere, cube, cylinder, pyramid

Corner, side, edge, curved, straight.

Abstract, sequence, pattern

Some stories we will be sharing include –

In My Heart by Jo Witek

Perfect Fit by Naomi Jones

Bear in a Square by Stella Blackstone

Snail Trail. In Search of a Modern Masterpiece by Jo Saxton

Ship Shapes by Stella Blackstone

Kippers Blue Balloon by Mick Inkpen

The Snail and the Whale by Julia Donaldson