



Activities to help you get ready for school

Personal, Social and Emotional

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| Joining in games and activities with others. | Playing board games together to encourage turn taking and sharing. |
| Encourage children to talk about how they are feeling. | Talk with children about their interests and what they are doing. |

Communication and Language

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| Enjoy lots of conversations together. | Talking about what they have done each day- maybe over dinner. Can they recall what they have done? |
| When looking at books together- talk about the story, what is happening? Can they retell their favourite stories? | Play listening games like Simon says and treasures hunts- e.g. can you find me 4 pieces of Lego, can you find me a red car. |
| Play games to build up vocabulary | Role play different scenarios- let them act out different roles e.g. going to the shop, to the café etc |

Physical Development

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| Practice getting dressed, putting your shoes on and putting on your coat. | Go for walks in the woods- let your child climb on fallen trees / logs, climb hills, paddle in streams. (Swithland woods and the outwoods are great places for this!) |
| Make a dressing board with poppers, buttons, buckles and zips. | Let children use different equipment to make marks indoors and outdoors. E.g. chalks on the patio, wax crayons on tinfoil, felt tip pens on old wallpaper / large paper, wax crayons on wood, sticks to make patterns in the mud/sand. |
| Go out on their bike or scooter. | Practice going to the toilet independently and washing hands. |
| Set up an obstacle course indoors or in your garden so they can practice their gross motor skills and balance. | When we are allowed to- go to the play park and climb on the equipment |
| Playdough- using a rolling pin and cutters, dough disco (look on utube), making cupcakes with the playdough, making play food, using it to make a treasure island and adding scenery. | Building dens with fabric, pegs, clothes horse. |
| Using scissors to cut out toys from a magazine or following trails on paper. | |



English

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| Recognising and reading their name | Reading: *Read lots of stories together *Look at picture books together and ask your child what is happening in the book *use puppets to re tell stories / make up stories *Make props and costumes and act out stories. *Have a bedtime story all snuggled up each day Starting school story books: *Usborne first experience: Going to School *Harry and the dinosaurs go to school *Starting school by Janet and Allan Ahlberg *Lucy and Tom go to school |
| Having a try at writing their name using different equipment- e.g. writing name with a stick in the sand or mud, magnetic letters, chalks outdoors, with playdough, wax crayons on tinfoil, using their finger in hair gel or shaving foam. | |
| Play I spy- in the house or when you are on a walk- practicing hearing initial sounds | |
| Initial sound silly soup- choose a sound and then children have to find things around the house beginning with that sound and put them in a bowl. Each time they collect something they can give it a stir. | |
| Singing or reading nursery rhymes | |

Mathematics

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| Number rhymes- 5 current buns, 5 speckled frogs, 1,2,3,4,5 once I caught a fish alive, 5 little ducks, 5 fat sausages You can use props to support this. | Make a magic potion- by counting out different ingredients. |
| Number bingo | Board games that use a dice and number recognition. |
| Collecting sticks on a walk- count them, put them in order of size. | Counting out toys |
| Number hunt – around the house or while you are on a walk. | Go on a shape hunt around the house or outdoors- children could take photos of the different shapes. |

Understanding the World

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| Plant some seeds in the garden- what do they need to grow? Watch them grow over time. Children will enjoy watering them each day. | Go on a minibeast hunt while you are on a walk or in the garden- talk about what they find. |
| Make a family tree | Make ice pots- find natural items from a walk e.g. leaves, pebbles etc. put them in a pot and freeze overnight- look at the changes. Children can then watch the pot melt the next day or they can chisel away at it with a stick or golf tee and children's hammer. |
| Go for walks in different places e.g. the woods, over fields, parks, in the town/village. | |



Expressive Art and Design

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| Create a picture or pattern using loose parts, such as stones, sticks, shells, cotton reels, pasta shapes, fir cones, leaves or curtain rings. | Make a junk model- Find different items in your home and make a model of your favourite thing. |
| Role play- set up a café, shop, school, fire station, car wash. Children can make and find props and they can act out the different roles. | Have a disco in your front room with lots of dancing |
| Make instruments out of junk. | Let children have a variety of creative materials to create their own things e.g. Sellotape, paper, crayons, buttons, pipe cleaners, feathers, scissors, lolly pop sticks, stickers, post its (anything you already have) |