

Key Learning Opportunities

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- To speak confidently in a familiar group
- To choose the resources they need for their chosen activities
- To work as part of a group and understand and how to follow the rules
- To play co-operatively, taking turns with others
- To take account of one another's ideas about how to organise their activity

Communication and Language

- To give attention to what others say and respond appropriately
- To demonstrate understanding when talking with others
- To use past, present and future forms more accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future
- To develop their own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas or events

Physical Development

- To show good control and co-ordination in small movements

Literacy

- To create and retell stories that have a setting, characters and a plot
- To use a growing vocabulary to describe characters and settings
- To listen to stories, accurately anticipating key events

Maths

- To use everyday language to talk about size, position and distance
- To compare quantities and lengths
- To recognise, create and describe patterns

Understanding the World

- To talk about past and present events in their own lives and in the lives of family members
- To make observations of animals and to discuss their characteristics
- To experiment with different outcomes, exploring the consequences of cause and effect

Expressive Arts and Design

- To use what they know about materials in original ways
- To represent their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through role play and stories
- To use their imagination, along with own experiences to create settings and stories

Resources

- A selection of everyday people such as a mum, dad, grandad, grandma, children
- A range of real-life characters such as farmers, police officers, fire officers, ambulance drivers, doctors, vets
- A selection of fantasy characters and animals such as a wizard, witch, fairy, unicorn, phoenix
- Collections of themed characters and resources such as pirates, footballers, superheroes
- Various animals including farm animals and wild animals
- A range of pets and owners
- A range of vehicles such as cars, trucks and diggers
- A small selection of wooden blocks, natural blocks and tree blocks
- A selection of accessories to support the creating of buildings including fences, trees, materials, glass pebbles
- A selection of natural materials and everyday objects
- High quality texts or images displayed nearby

Enhancements:

You might like to add additional collections of themed characters and resources and/or a feature on current resources such as houses and homes, towers, pirates, footballers, superheroes with more books and found materials to embellish ideas.

Organisation

- Distinct area with large carpeted floor surface
- Shelving or trolley to display resources
- A low play table to support story making scenes
- Collections of resources sorted and displayed in plastic trays or baskets
- Trays grouped together by theme, fantasy, real life
- Where regular blocks are stored individually these should be silhouetted to support tidying up routines
- Photographs and/or text for labels linked to the name of the resource

Intended Experiences

- Making decisions about the resources they need
- Planning and communicating their ideas
- Expressing their thoughts and ideas to others, adults and children
- Co-operating with peers and sharing resources
- Creating imaginative and real-world scenarios
- Creating stories around a set of characters
- Creating stories with a familiar pattern and sequences
- Retelling stories to and/or sharing story ideas with an audience
- Acting out familiar experiences
- Narrating their play
- Designing a setting for a story and characters
- Adapting and modifying ideas, trial and error
- Reflecting on progress and outcome of their ideas
- Drawing and/or labelling designs and/or creating maps of their story setting
- Experimenting with and using a range of vocabulary to describe their designs, ideas and stories
- Using mathematical, descriptive, scientific and geographical language to describe settings and characters

Role of the Adult

Play alongside

- Observe children and take note of their key interests
- Respond to their requests and ideas
- Suggest possibilities to extend their play/thinking
- Consider additional stimulus and add this immediately if to hand or the following day/week
- Play alongside children to take play forwards, suggest ideas and show what's possible
- Play alongside, or in small organised groups to show how to play imaginatively

Role model / direct teach

- Model thinking aloud and commenting such as 'I've not thought about that before'. 'You've really made me think about...'
- Model and manage behaviours, self-regulation and the characteristics of effective learning

Raise questions to stimulate ideas and add challenge

- What do you notice about?
- What happened next?
- Who else might?

Use appropriate language linked to key learning

- People (mum, dad, aunt, uncle, sister, cousins, neighbours, people who help, jobs)
- Geographical language linked to locations
- Scientific linked to animals, habitats and features
- Communities and celebrations (Christmas, Diwali, New Year, Eid)



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