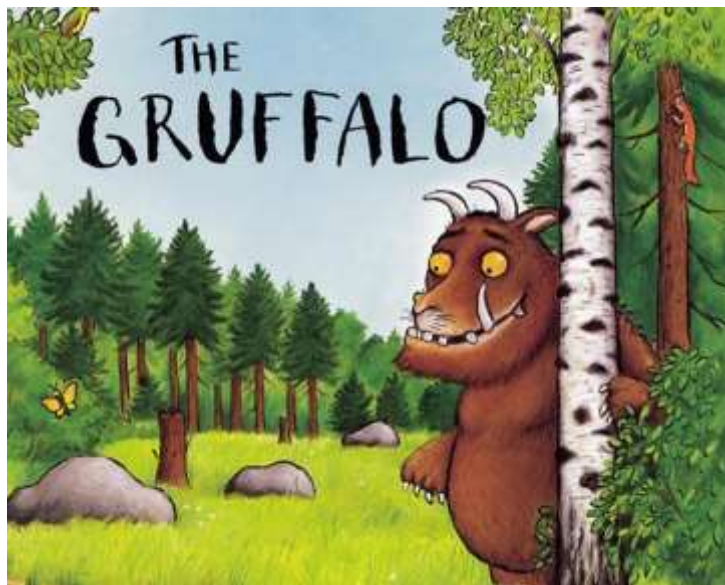


29th June 2020

I hope you enjoyed the glorious weather last week. It looks like you spent lots of time outside in the garden and paddling pools. I was amazed by your creativity and problem solving with the home learning this week. We enjoyed seeing all of your photos, video clips and examples of your work.

This week we have chosen a family favourite, The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson. I expect you are all very familiar with it – watch out for Kerrie’s story – I believe it will be set in the deep dark woods ☺



There are many different versions on YouTube – here is a reading you may enjoy:

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=the+gruffalo+youtube&docid=608033967301266320&mid=A901CE4BFC465C1612BDA901CE4BFC465C1612BD&view=detail&FORM=VIRE>

The Gruffalo Activity Ideas

Gruffalo Crumble

Enjoy making a Gruffalo crumble together – I haven't tried it yet so do let me know what it's like 😊

<https://www.panmacmillan.com/blogs/books-for-children/gruffalo-crumble-recipe>

Reading – look at the recipe together. Talk about the ingredient list, numbered instructions and bossy words.

Maths – involve the children in weighing, measuring and comparing quantities.

Understanding the World – use your senses to explore the ingredients – how does it look, smell, feel, taste? Talk about the changes that happen when the ingredients are mixed and cooked.



(There is also a no bake chocolatey version that looks tasty too -

<https://mummy2twindividuals.com/world-book-day-no-bake-gruffalo-recipe>)

Make an Animal Home

Snake's log pile house? Fox's underground house?

What can you use to make an animal home? It could be for a real animal or for one of your toys. Think carefully about what the animal might need.

Communication and Language – retelling familiar parts of a story/repeat refrains

Expressive Arts and Design – being imaginative, introducing a storyline into play.

Understanding the World –

finding out about and showing care for living things.



Expressive Arts and Design – building for a purpose

Footprints

The Gruffalo makes GIANT footprints. Make some footprints of your own – perhaps the whole family can join in! Talk about the size of the footprints – can you order them from smallest to biggest?

Expressive Arts and Design – experiments with a range of media through sensory exploration

Maths – size vocabulary, ordering two or three objects by size



All the same

In the Gruffalo story we are encouraged to notice the similarities and differences in the creatures. Look at pictures and describe what is similar or different. A cat and a dog both have tails- describe their tails.

Communication and Language – using descriptive language.

PSED – building an awareness that we are all different and differences as well as similarities should be celebrated.



Ambleside core value- **Celebrating Uniqueness** or for children **Everyone is Different.**

Masks

Which is your favourite character in the story? How would you describe him/her? Make a mask for one (or all of the characters). Use it to help you to retell your favourite parts of the story.

Reading – talking about and describing characters

Communication and Language – orally retelling parts of a familiar story

Expressive Arts and Design – using a range of media and materials for a purpose.



Gruffalo Hunt

Go on a family walk – let the children lead the way and see the world through their eyes. They may want to find a nut for the mouse, search in the woods for animal homes or retell the story. You could also gather leaves and sticks etc to make some natural art.

Physical Development – moving in different ways

PSED – taking part in shared family experiences

Communication and Language – retelling the story, taking on a role



Other ideas

The Lego Challenge

Lego is a brilliant resource for encouraging construction, problem solving and imaginative play. (Duplo or any other construction toy works equally well) Set a family Lego Challenge – there are lots of ideas on the 30 day challenge: <https://thatbricklife.com/lego-challenge-30-days-of-play-calendar/>

PSED – working together, sharing ideas

Maths – exploring shape, space and measure

Expressive Arts and Design – Creating storylines, engaging in imaginative play.



Tube play

Use different lengths and sizes of tubes to post balls, pompoms or other small items. You could measure how long it takes items to fall through each tube, or create a colour matching tube game. Or you could just enjoy posting and transferring!

Maths – exploring shape, space and measure

Physical Development – develop large and fine motor skills, practise co-ordination



Number Hunt

Either hide numbers around the house for the children to find or challenge them to spot numbers in their everyday environment (house numbers are ideal for this). Label and talk about the numbers as they are found, modelling comparative language

Maths – recognising numerals in the environment, especially those of personal significance



Treasure Maps

The children at Nursery love making treasure maps. Find some treasure for them to hide. Can they draw you a treasure map so you can find it? (you may need to model this a few times first!) X marks the spot!

Mathematics – positional language
Literacy/Expressive Arts and Design – mark making



Sinking and Floating

Fill a large container (or use bath time). Provide a range of objects for the children to explore. Encourage the children to make predictions before testing whether they sink or float. You can extend by sorting the objects into two groups.

Understanding the World – making predictions, investigating materials
Mathematics – sorting objects according to their properties.



Shaving Foam Mark Making

A messy but a fun one! Squirt shaving foam into a tray and let the children explore. They may use their fingers, whole hands or even their whole bodies! Copy their mark making and introduce new marks.

Literacy – Making marks, ascribing meaning
EAD – experimenting with media and materials through sensory exploration

