

1st Feb 2021 – Home Learning

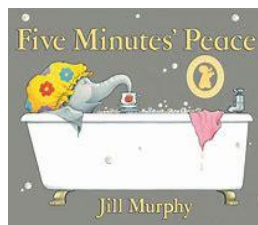
We hope you enjoy the home learning this week. Some of the activities are based on the story 'Five Minutes Peace' by Jill Murphy. We imagine that this is a story that you may be able to relate to during Lockdown, with Mummy Elephant just wanting five minutes to herself – the children had other ideas! Jess will share the story on our Facebook page. It is also available on YouTube: [Five Minutes' Peace by Jill Murphy - Children's Bedtime Stories - YouTube](#)

Five Minutes Peace activity ideas:

Picture Hunt

In this book the pictures tell us more about the story than the words. Talk together about the pictures e.g. what is happening and how the characters might feel about it. Look at the page (or pause the video) where the elephants are having breakfast. Can you find an elephant, a car, a spoon, a recorder and a cup? This game will encourage children to look closely at the illustrations.

Literacy – showing an interest in illustrations and print in books.



Musical instruments

Lester wanted to play mum a tune whilst she was in the bath. Can you make your own musical instrument? We make shakers using rice, pasta or lentils in bottles or yoghurt pots. Or guitars using elastic bands...or if you're feeling brave a saucepan drumkit! What will you create? How would you describe the sound it makes? Use your instrument to sing along to favourite nursery rhymes or songs.

Literacy – tuning in to and describing sounds, joining in with or reciting nursery rhymes.

Expressive Arts and Design – using resources for a purpose.



Making Toast

Mrs Large wanted to enjoy her marmalade toast. Can you make toast at home? Make sure a grown up helps you use the toaster. Use a knife to spread butter and your favourite topping onto the toast. Can you cut it into rectangles, squares or triangles?

Physical Development – using one handed tools

Mathematics – naming 2D shapes and talking about their properties



Time

Children often find the concept of time difficult. It can really help to talk about routines using language such as first, next and after. Mrs Large wanted five minutes' peace – this can feel like a long time to a child. Use timers to play with time e.g. how many jumps can you do in 30 seconds? How far can you run in a minute? What can you build with Lego in five minutes?

Mathematics – anticipating time-based events, beginning to use time related vocabulary.



Mrs Large's Bathtime

Use a washing up bowl or container to make a bath for Mrs Large or other toys/dolls. Add bubble bath, fizzers or petals. Enhance further with sponges and brushes so the children can wash their toy animals. Make links with their own bath time

Physical Development - health and self-care, awareness of hygiene routines.

Understanding the World – show care and concern for living things



Colour Mixing

Use black and white paint to explore mixing different shades of grey, talking about light and dark colours. Can you use your new colour to paint the family of elephants? What other new colours can you make by mixing paints?

Expressive Arts and Design – exploring colours and how they can be changed.



Other Ideas:

Estimating Jars

Use clear jars or containers and put different quantities of toys, beads, breadsticks etc in each. Invite the whole family to guess how many are in each jar, then count together to find out how close your estimates were.

Use opportunities for comparisons between the quantities.

Mathematics - use number names in play, make comparisons between quantities, counting with 1:1 correspondence



Playdough

Playing with playdough is a fantastic way to build strength for writing. Children can roll it and cut it, mould it into cakes, carve it, stamp it, add loose parts into it and much more. Here is a simple recipe so you can make your own at home:

[Playdough recipe - BBC Good Food](#)

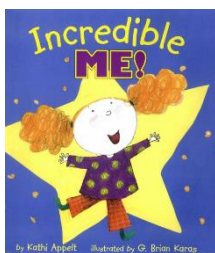
Physical Development – using fine motor skills to manipulate materials.



All About Me

Make an 'I am me' book or poster. Each page could be something that makes your child special and unique. Each sentence could begin with 'I can....' or 'I am... ' or 'I have... ' Encourage your child to look in a mirror at their own features, chat about what they like to do and what they are good at.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development/Understanding the World – Knows some of the things that make them unique. Able to talk about their preferences and interests.



Colour Chart

Make a colour chart by putting blocks of different colour pens on a strip of paper. Take the paper outside and find things in the natural environment that match the colours on your strip.

Understanding the World – Can talk about some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects.

Expressive Arts and Design – talking about and matching colours.



On a Journey

Play a make-believe journey game with your child. Make a car out of a cardboard box that you decorate together, or just grab some cushions, pile in a few teddy bear passengers, and let your child drive you off on an adventure! You could even pack a picnic for the ride.

Expressive Arts and Design – engaging in role play experiences.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development – keeps play going by initiating ideas and responding to what others do or say



Hide and Seek

Play hide and seek around the house or in the garden. Take turns to count to ten (or twenty) before searching for the hiders. When everybody has been found, talk about the hiding places they chose using language such as in, on, under, next to and between.

Mathematics – counting by rote to ten or twenty.

Communication and Language – understand and use prepositions

