

Week Beginning: 6th January 2025

Our Topic is..... **Pirates!**

Next week, we will be learning about.....

Topic:

Ahoy, matey! Get ready for an exciting adventure on the high seas as we dive into the world of pirates! In this Spring term, the children will embark on a treasure hunt to learn about famous pirates, their adventures, and how they lived. The children will discover where pirates sailed, the different kinds of ships they used, and what it would be like to be a pirate on a grand adventure. This topic will be launched with an exciting Pirate Quest on Friday 10th January.

Phonics:

We will learn to recognise the sounds ai (tail in the rain), ee (sheep in a jeep), igh (a light in the night), oa (soap the goat). Using familiar sounds, we will learn to orally segment and blend words that contain these new digraphs (2 letters that make 1 sound) and trigraphs (3 letters that make one sound).

Maths:

This week, the children will use their perceptual subitising skills (seeing the quantity without counting) in increasingly complex arrangements, moving from dots in a line and arrangements of 2, to a focus on standard dice arrangements. For larger quantities, the children will begin to use skills of conceptual subitising, beginning to quickly see the sub-groups within these larger numbers. A key focus will be on developing skills of visualising; the children will be encouraged to look carefully at arrangements of dots and then to close their eyes and explain what they saw. Using spatial language to describe sub-groups within these arrangements will deepen the children's understanding of part-whole relations and allow them to further consider composition (the numbers within numbers).

How you could help your child at home:

- Read with your child daily.
- Daily practise of the phonemes we have learnt this week. Use the flash cards to make CVVC and CCVVC words.
- Use junk model materials to create a pirate prop. Whether it's a spyglass (telescope) to scan the horizon, a treasure map to plot their course, or a small treasure chest to hold their hidden loot, these props will help set the scene for a day full of imagination and excitement on our Pirate Quest. Raid the recycling box and let's get creative.
- Offer opportunities to make arrangements of 5 by printing with paint using fingers, corks or other distinct shapes. How many ways can you find to arrange 5 dots? You may want to start with 1 colour and enhance the activity with 2 colours later in the week.

Reminders:

- **Show and Tell:** Each week we will select one group from each class to share something. This might be an item from home, favourite toy, photographs or just a familiar story. Each child in the group will have 5 minutes to talk to the class, sharing why this item is important to them, before answering questions from their friends.
Show and Tell Groups on Friday 10th January – Snakes and Stingrays
- **Monday 6th January – INSET Day**
- **Pirate Quest – Friday 10th January - Come to school dressed as a pirate.**

EYFS Team

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