

Colours

Ideas for Parents - Class 3

Week 1 – Red

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Look at anything red in colour at home. School uniform is a good one to begin with.
- What foods are red?
- Who wears a red outfit at Christmas time? Which reindeer has a red nose?

Mathematical Development

- Sort any small items, buttons, beads etc. Pick out the red ones.
- Colour in some shapes. Choose a red crayon.
- Use red wool or red laces to thread through holes in card.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Discuss vehicles that are red especially post vans and fire engines. How do these vehicles help us?
- Talk about traffic lights and what the colours mean to traffic.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

- Go to a post box and post a letter. Talk about what happens to our letters when they are put in a post box.
- Read the story or watch a video of Postman Pat.
- Look out for a pelican crossing that has a 'red man' lit up. Talk about what it means.

Physical Development

- Ask the children to run around then look at their faces in a mirror. What colour are their cheeks?
- Add red colouring to some dough. Suggest rolling it, squashing it, making some pretend tomatoes, strawberries and apples.

Creative Development

- Use a red crayon to make a pattern on paper. Then use red paint and paint over the picture. There will be interesting results.
- Sing the nursery rhyme "The North Wind Doth Blow", "The Robin has a Red Breast".

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Week 2 – Yellow

Communication, Language & Literacy

- Talk about the colour of the sun. Explain that it sometimes hides behind the clouds so we can't see it. It makes us feel warm.
- Think about a holiday where the sun was shining. If it was hot what did you do to stay cool?

Mathematical Development

- A daffodil is yellow. Cut out yellow circle shapes and some petal shapes. Stick petals on the circles to make them look like daffodils.
- Talk about circles as you are making daffodils then think about any other flower to make using circles and different shaped petals.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- If you have a teddy at home (a yellow one) then perhaps you can imagine that he's having lots of adventures. A book called "Teddy Edward" tells about a bear who travels to different countries.
- A glove puppet of Sooty could be the start of some pretend play. Watch a video/DVD of Sooty and Sweep

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

Plant some daffodil bulbs within the garden to be ready in the spring or in bowls ready for Christmas. Explain how bulbs grow and what they need to grow.

Physical Development

- Practise throwing and catching with a large ball and bean bags if available.
- Throw the ball to one another.
- See how far you can throw a bean bag.
- If you have some plastic skittles, try rolling the ball to knock the skittles down.

Creative Development

- Paint a sunny picture; it could be a beach picture or a yellow flower picture.
- If you have a sand tray, make some sand castles and other shapes in the sand.
- Sing the nursery rhyme "Bobby Shafto". He has "yellow hair".

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Week 3 – Blue

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Talk about the sky being blue. What do you see in the sky? Imagine you were on a magic carpet and could fly through the sky, where would it go?
- An adult should write down ideas discussed.
- Children could draw a magic carpet in the sky.

Mathematical Development

- Put some water in the water tray or in a bowl. Have some different sized containers to fill with the water.
- How many small cups of water will fill a large plastic bottle?
- How many cups can you fill with a plastic jug?

Personal, Social and Emotional

- Talk about different colours of blue. The sky is light blue during the day time, it is dark blue at night.
- Are you frightened of the dark? When you go to bed do you have a teddy or toy to cuddle?
- What is special about your bedroom?

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

If you go to another country you can either go on an aeroplane, on a boat across the water or in a tunnel under the water. Talk about a boat floating on the sea. Float some objects/boats in the water tray. Do they float?

Physical Development

Either make a kite or buy one to fly. You will have to find an open space to run with your kite.

Creative Development

- Mix different blue paints.
- Paint the sky then the sea. Paint some boats on the sea and aeroplanes in the sky.
- Sing the nursery rhyme “Lavender’s Blue”.

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Week 4 – Green

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Talk about green things that grow e.g. grass, trees, cabbages, runner beans, flowers etc.
- Read “Jack and the Beanstalk”. Act out the story.
- Explain the story starts at the beginning (front) of the book and the end is at the back.
- Read “The Very Hungry Caterpillar”.

Mathematical Development

- With reference to the story above, talk about “giant” things and small things.
- Ask the children to collect some big objects (or point to them) and then collect some small objects. You can talk about “bigger than” and “smaller than”.
- You could collect some leaves and sort them into big and small.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Talk about Jack being frightened of the giant. What makes you frightened?
- Ask if they think Jack was brave or was he silly?
- If you go on a walk and have to cross the road look out for the ‘green man’ which tells you it is safe to cross.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

- Go for a walk so that you can do some tree spotting. Have an identification book with you.
- Talk about evergreen trees and deciduous trees.
- Collect conkers, chestnuts, acorns explaining which trees they come from and which ones you can eat.
- Talk about the life cycle of a butterfly (linked with “The Very Hungry Caterpillar”).

Physical Development

Practise stop (red) and go (green) when running, walking, skipping, jumping.

Creative Development

- If you have collected some leaves, using green paint do some leaf printing.
- You can also do some leaf rubbings using green wax crayons.

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Week 5 – Black and White

Communication, Language and Literacy

- Look at books/newspapers. They are normally printed in black on white paper.
- Locate some black and white photographs from home or elderly relatives. Talk about how different people look, especially their clothes and hair styles.

Mathematical Development

- Play a game of dominoes either on the table or you can buy large floor dominoes that are fun.
- Thinking about all the colours learnt so far, ask the children to find you e.g. something red under the table or something yellow in the cupboard.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- We looked at pelican crossings in Week 1 now introduce the children to zebra crossings.
- Ask questions about where to cross the road and who helps you to get to the other side safely.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

- Using lego try to make a road with buildings either side. Use black and white paper or card to make a zebra crossing. Put cars on the road so try to put the zebra crossing in a safe place.
- Bake some cakes and put icing on the top. Before the icing sets put some “hundreds and thousands” on the top. Talk about the different colours of sugar strands.

Physical Development

- Use chalk to draw walking, wiggly lines on a hard area outside. Children can walk, jump, run on the lines.
- Draw other “games” such as hop scotch.
- On a sunny day try to catch your shadows.

Creative Development

- If you have a sunny day you can look at your shadows. Indoors paint a picture of yourself and paint your shadow black.
- Think about any black and white animals that you know e.g. a panda or a cat. Use black and white felt to make a glove puppet. With adult help stick felt on felt and the adult can sew the sides.

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Have fun with colours!

