

Please visit our private Facebook group Ark Castledown EYFS for more ideas and examples of home learning.

Term two home learning activities bingo

Watch and listen to a firework display	Make a firework picture	Dress up as different characters together.	Go to see some Christmas lights.
Learn a Christmas carol.	Make some magic potions.	Post a Christmas card.	Place I spy on your way to school.
Help a grown up bake something.	See some kind of show.	Make each other laugh .	Teach a grown up some sign language you learnt at school.

How many boxes can you colour in?

Here are some ideas linked to our theme for the week you might like to try at home. You may want to try one of more of these activities or you might just want to choose an activity from the home learning bingo.

Week 1: Pinocchio

Encourage your child to talk about school by using the relaxed question phrase 'Tell me about...'

English: Practice writing their name using a capital letter for the first letter and lowercase letters for the rest.

Share the story of Pinocchio, encourage children to pick their favourite part and retell it. Draw pictures of their favourite bit of the story.



Top tip:

Read the story daily and discuss each page. Think about the characters – Is Pinocchio a good character? Why? How does Geppetto feel?

Maths: Size ordering.



Top tip:

Make 3 towers using lego or other build blocks. Encourage children to order them and say which is biggest/smallest. Encourage children to use vocabulary big medium and small to describe the towers.

Creative: Cut out and make the movable puppet of Pinocchio attached.

Understanding the world: Find as many pictures of modern toys as you can. Cut them up and stick them onto a piece of paper. Talk to a grown up about what you think the toys were made from.



Top tip: Use some of your own toys to find out what toys are made from think about how they feel and what they do. For example can they move? Do they turn on/off?

Key words to use: Plastic, metal, fabric, wood. Hard, soft, sharp, bumpy

Week 2: Pinocchio

Encourage your child to talk about school by using the relaxed question phrase 'Tell me about...'

English: Name writing as the week before. Children to tell the story using the book from the week before.



Top tip:

Remind children of the story that they read last week. Discuss the characters and their favourite parts. Give the children the book and ask them to retell the story using the pictures.

Maths: Size ordering.



Top tip: Using 3 of the Pinocchio faces ask children to draw a nose on each one that is a different length. Use cubes, paperclips or a ruler to measure how long each nose is.

Creative: Make a Pinocchio puppet using junk modelling (card board boxes, paper rolls etc).

Understanding the world: Find as many pictures of toys from the past as you can. Cut them up and stick them onto a piece of paper. Talk to a grown up about what you think the toys were made from. Compare them to the toy pictures you collected last week.



Top tip: Are they made from the same materials as modern toys? Do they look different? Do they turn on/off?

Key words to use: wood, metal, old, new, compare, similar, different

Week 3: Kipper's Toy Box

Encourage your child to talk about school by using the relaxed question phrase 'Tell me about...'

English: Name writing as before. **Make labels for your toys. (YOU MIGHT WANT TO KEEP THE LABELS FOR NEXT WEEK)**

Sound out the words e.g lego (l e g o). Can they say the word e.g. you say l – e – g – o child shouts LEGO!

Talk about the first sound in lego – l. practice tracing the letter on their hand, on the floor, on the wall using their finger.

On a slip of paper write the sounds that they can hear in lego (they may not be able to write all the sounds - that's ok). Put the label next to the lego. Repeat for different toys e.g teddy, doll etc.

Maths: Adding 1 or 2 to a number up to 5.



Top tip:

Watch numberblocks addition -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b08dr1l3/numberblocks-series-1-the-whole-of-me>

Use toys to add 2 groups of objects. Put one group of objects on one side and another group on the other side (one group should have no more than 2 objects in it). Ask: How many altogether? Support them to count the total using a finger to point at each object. Repeat for different groups encouraging your child to count independently.

Creative: Make a toy using old boxes and things you find around the house.



Top tip:

Encourage children to draw a picture of what they want to make first and describe it to you.

Understanding the world:

Collect a range of toy. Sort them based on what they're made from.



Top tip:

Look at each one in turn and discuss what it's made from. Ask your child to group them into 2 or 3 groups based on what they are made from. Encourage them to explain why they grouped them in this way. Discuss if they can be grouped in different ways and try again.

Week 4: The Lost Toy Museum

Encourage your child to talk about school by using the relaxed question phrase 'Tell me about...'

English: Name writing as before. **Practice tickets for the museum**



Top tip:

Make a museum using some of their toys (if you have kept the labels from last week you can add these to the museum).

Fill in the ticket sheet. Discuss who the ticket might be for, what time they might be visiting the museum etc. Sound out the words e.g dad (d - a - d). Can they say the word e.g. you say d-a-d child shouts DAD!

Talk about the first sound in dad – d. practice tracing the letter on their hand, on the floor, on the wall using their finger. Talk about the other sounds in dad (a, d) repeat as above. When they're ready add the word to the ticket.

Discuss the time that they'll be arriving at the museum – using a clock, phone or calculator. Look at the numbers. Encourage the child to copy the numbers they need on to their ticket.

Give out the ticket and open for business inviting the family to view the toy museum.

Maths: Subtracting 1 or 2 from numbers up to 5.



Top tip:

Watch numberblocks subtraction –

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b0bp2v6x/numberblocks-series-3-the-legend-of-big-tum>

Numberblocks addition and subtraction game:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/puzzles/numberblocks-number-magic-adding-and-subtracting>

Put some toys in a group (no more than 5). Ask please can you give me (1 or 2)? How many are left? Ask children to count how many are left pointing at one object at a time.

Creative: Design a toy



Top tip:

Think about all of your favourite toys. What do they have? Design a toy that has all of your favourite things. Talk to you child first about what their dream toy would include. What materials would it be made out off? What would it do?

Week 5: The Nutcracker

Encourage your child to talk about school by using the relaxed question phrase 'Tell me about...'

English: Write a note to the Nutcracker to taking you to the land of sweets.



Top tip:

Read the story daily. Discuss the favourite parts and encourage children to retell the story using the pictures in the book. Ask children how they would feel if the nutcracker took them to the land of sweets? Discuss how to write a thank you note. Using the template encourage the children to write: 'Thank you, from (their name)' Take one word at a time sound out thank (t – h – a – n – k) encourage child to repeat back what you've said (shout: THANK) using the sound mat to help you encourage them to write each sound next to each other. You will not be able to be sounded out so model writing it first and encourage your child to copy it. Next sound out **from** (repeat as with thank). Children should try to write their name independently.

Maths: Naming and sorting shapes.



Top tip:

Around the house or on the way to/from school search for different shapes. Encourage children to name the shapes e.g. What shape is this? Or Can you find a...? Talk about the features of the shape; how many sides?, how many vertices (corners)? Is it a 2D or 3D shape?

Together cut up some different shapes and ask them to make a pictures using the different shapes can they name the shapes they've used?

Creative: Play a piece of music and paint in time to it.



Top tip:

Together choose a piece of music it might be a lively piece or a slow relaxing piece. Together paint a picture in time to the music – short sharp parts might be represented by dots. Slow smooth parts with long wavy lines.

Understanding the world: Investigating ice. Finding out about winter traditions.

- 1) Freeze some blocks of ice with small toys in the middle. Provide the child with some salt water, oil, salt, sand paper and other objects that they could use to free the toy from the ice.
- 2) Choose a country (not England) do they have any winter/Christmas traditions? What are they how are they similar or different to ours?

Week 6: The Jolly Postman

Encourage your child to talk about school by using the relaxed question phrase 'Tell me about...'

English: Name writing as before. **Write a Season's Greetings Card**



Top tip:

Model writing 'to' for your child to copy into their card. Discuss who their card is to and encourage them to sound out and write this name independently.

Next sound out **from**. Sound out from (f – r – o – m) encourage child to repeat back what you've said (shout: FROM) using the sound mat to help you encourage them to write each sound next to each other.

Children should try to write their name independently.

Maths: Naming and sorting shapes.



Top tip:

Around the house or on the way to/from school search for different shapes. Encourage children to name the shapes e.g. What shape is this? Or Can you find a...? Talk about the features of the shape; how many sides?, how many vertices (corners)? Is it a 2D or 3D shape?

Together collect some objects as examples of 3D shapes e.g. can, box, ice cream cone, use them to make a model. Discuss which shapes have been used for which part of the model. Encourage children to use correct shape names and explain why they chose that shape.

Creative: create a Season's Greetings card. Using paint, pencils or materials create a Christmas design for the front of a card.

Understanding the world: Find out about Christmas traditions in England. Look at traditions from the past and how they have changed.

Week 7: The Christmas Story

Encourage your child to talk about school by using the relaxed question phrase 'Tell me about...'

English: Name writing as before. **Write a Christmas list for Santa.**



Top tip:

Maths: time sequencing



Top tip:

Use the attached sheet to sort activities into those done during the day and those done at night.

Creative: Create a Christmas decoration.

Choose one of the paper craft activities to make.