



Harper Bell SDA Primary School

Home Learning Projects Reception

Week One

The project this week aims to provide opportunities for your child to gain a better understanding of their own family. Learning may focus on what different makeup of families, what traditions your family has, stories linked to your family etc.

Writing Tasks:

- Ask your child to draw a picture of the people who live in their house. If they share time across two houses, draw who lives in each house. Can they label their family members using their phonics knowledge?
- Practice name writing. Can they write their first name? Middle name? Surname?
- Can they write the names of their family members? Do they know Mummy and Daddy's real name? They could copy this or use their phonics knowledge. Can they write this? Using chalks, crayons, paint, felt tips.
- Practice forming the letters of the alphabet. Follow your school's script.
- Ask your child to write out the tricky words they are working on at the moment on pieces of paper and turn them into a pairs game.

Other Subjects:

- **Look at a selection of family photographs** and discuss the changes over time.
 - Show your child a photograph of them as a baby, a 1 year old, a 2 year old. What could they do at that age? What can they do now that they couldn't do then?
 - Look at a picture of a family member as a baby (this could be parents, siblings). Discuss how everyone was a baby once.
 - Are there any black and white photographs? Why are these photographs black and white? Do they show older family members when they were younger? Talk about how life was different then.
- **Draw a family tree**- How does your family link together? Can your child draw out their family members and link them together using lines?
- **Do a picture survey of the people in your house.** How many family members have blonde/ brown/ black/ red hair? Can you record this with pictures? How many people have blue/ brown/ green eyes?
- **Have a family picnic.** Lay out a blanket in the living room or garden. Can children make sure everyone has a plate, fork, spoon, cup? How many do we need all together? Give your child a selection of food and ask them to share it fairly between everyone? If there is one left over what could we do?
- **Sort out the clean clothes.** Who do they belong to? Can they deliver them to the right place in the house? Pair up socks. Can they match the patterns/ colours? Can they count in twos to work out how many there are all together? Peg clothes on the airer (this will support children to develop hand strength which will impact on their writing).

- **Put on a show or performance-** Perform a story or song to your family. Plan out costumes, props. Children could make a show program.
- **Lay the table for your family for dinner-** How many people are there? How many knives, forks, cups do you need? Write out name cards for everyone in your family to show them where to sit. Write a menu to let them know what is for dinner that night. Roleplay as a waiter/ waitress. What would everyone like in their sandwiches for lunch? What drinks would everyone like to have with their dinner?
- **Make a birthday card for the next family birthday-** How old are they going to be? Can they write the numerals to show the correct age? Write a message inside for your family member and sign it with your name.
- **What jobs do the people in your family do?** Talk to your child about your job and what you do. What would they like to be when they grow up? Can they draw a picture of themselves in the job they would like to do?
- **Use play dough to make your family members-** Use ready made play dough or make your own using this recipe:
 - 2 cups of plain flour, one cup of salt, a tablespoon of oil, a cup of water (add gradually), a couple of drops of food colouring (optional), a teaspoon of cream of tartar (optional, but will make it last longer)
 -
- **Play a family board game-** Play a game together. Talk about taking it in turns and playing fairly. Dice games will support your child's number recognition. You could use a spinner with numerals on to help develop numeral recognition. If you don't have a spinner you could make one using an old cereal box and a split pin.
- **Find out everyone's favourite song in your family-** Listen to each person's favourite song and make up a dance to match. Do you like the same music? What is your favourite song?



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Week Two

The project this week aims to provide opportunities for your child to learn more about the area in which they live. Learning may focus on your local area, famous people, key landmarks and links to your city.

Writing Tasks:

- Design your dream house. What rooms would you like to have in your house? Encourage children to be as imaginative as they can (e.g. a cinema room, a chocolate room). Can they label their house using their phonics knowledge?
- Practice name writing. Can they write their first name? Middle name? Surname?
- Practice forming the letters of the alphabet. Follow your school's script.
- Ask your child to write out the tricky words they are working on at the moment on pieces of paper and turn them into a pairs game.

Other Subjects:

- **The rooms in my house-**
 - Support your child to create a map or cross section of their home. Can they name all of the rooms? An adult could hide an object in a room and mark where it is on the child's map. Can they use their map to find the hidden object? Label each room using phonics knowledge.
 - Gather an object from each room and challenge your child to return them to the appropriate room e.g. toothbrush from the bathroom, teddy from their bedroom.
 - Hide objects around the room and describe where it is e.g. "it's under something red" Can your child hide an object and describe where it is for you to find?
- **Go on a numeral hunt-**
 - Search for numerals around the house (clocks, books, house numbers, car registrations, oven, washing machine). Can they record the numerals on paper?
- **Find your house on google maps-**
 - Explore using google maps to look at your house from above and on street view. Use the arrows to move up and down the road and around your area. Can they find key places e.g. the corner shop, their school, grandparents houses.
 - Search for a house in a different part of the world and discuss how it is similar or different to your own. You could use places children have visited on holiday or search places that are significantly different.
- **Junk model your house-**
 - Using old packaging (shoe box, cereal box etc.) support your child to make a model of your house. Can they count how many windows there are and stick on the right amount? Can they write their house number on the front?
 - Junk model your dream house. Use materials from around your house to decorate e.g. old wallpaper, fabric, wool.
- **Go on a shape hunt-**

- Set your child a shape finding challenge around the house. Ask: Can you find a triangle/ square/ rectangle/ circle in this room? How many can you find? Can you draw all of the circles on one piece of paper, triangles on another etc.
- **Use construction blocks to build your house-**
 - Using lego, duplo, wooden blocks make a model of your house. Can they add in the rooms and doors in the right places? Write labels to match each room on pieces of paper.
 - Build your dream house out of construction blocks.
- **Create a furniture collage-**
 - Using old magazines and catalogues support your child to cut out and stick or sort objects into the room they would belong in. Support your child to use the correct scissor grip using this [guide](#).
- **Exploring with your senses-**
 - Gather a collection of household objects e.g. fork, cup, toothbrush, teddy bear, book and show your child. Use a scarf/ material as a blindfold and pass your child one of the objects. Can they figure out what it is through touch alone? Give clues if they are struggling. Swap roles and ask your child to give you an object to figure out.
 - Explore the textures around your house. Can children find something rough, smooth, bumpy. They could take a wax rubbing of each texture (Lay a piece of paper over the top and rub over with the side of a crayon). You could continue this into the garden.



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Week Three

The project this week aims to provide opportunities for your child to learn more about different viewpoints. Learning may focus on physical viewpoints in terms of what you can see outside of the window at home, what others can see looking into your home and then progress onto personal viewpoints and of others.

Writing Tasks:

- Practice name writing. Can they write their first name? Middle name? Surname?
- Practice forming the letters of the alphabet. Follow your school's script.
- Ask your child to write out the tricky words they are working on at the moment on pieces of paper and turn them into a pairs game.
- Ask your child to draw or write a shopping list to help plan for the weekly shop. Encourage them to ask all family members views on what they would like to eat that week.
- Ask your child to help plan a movie night/ afternoon. Select two films from a streaming service or DVD's you have in the house. Ask them to draw a picture to represent each film or write out the title. Ask them to speak to each member of the house to find out their view on which film they would like to watch. Ask your child to write each person's name under their chosen film.

Other Subjects:

- **What can you see out of your window?-**
 - Ask your child to look out of a window in the house and draw what they can see. Look out of a different window (e.g. back or side of the house), draw what they can see. Look at the two pictures together and discuss what is the same in both pictures (e.g. the sky) and what is different.
- **Record how many cars/ people walk past your house-**
 - Set a timer for 5 minutes on your phone or tablet. Draw out a simple grid (as below) and ask your child to put a tick in the right place every time a person or car goes past. When complete, can they count up the ticks and write the matching numeral? Were there more people or cars?
- **How do we differ from others?-**
 - Ask your child to look in a mirror at their hair colour, eye colour, skin colour. Ask them to create a self-portrait using either felt-tips, crayons or paint. Look at some pictures in books and magazines. Does everyone look the same way as them? How do people look different?
- **Imagine another world outside the window-**
 - Close the curtains and ask your child to imagine that the house is in a new imagined world. What do they imagine? Is it snowy? Are there dinosaurs/ monsters in the new world? Ask them to tell you a story about it... Your child could create a story map to show what happens in their imaginary world (see right).
- **Go on a sight hunt-**
 - Support your child to make a viewfinder. Cut out a square of card from an old cereal box/ cardboard. Cut a smaller square out of the centre. Take your viewfinder around the house and garden and explore what things you can see. Alternatively, you could create a pair of binoculars as pictured.
 - Your child could write a list of the things they see or draw/ paint a picture.
 - If you have a tablet or phone that could be used by your child they could do the same activity but using photographs to record.



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Week Four

The project this week aims to provide opportunities for your child to learn more about key animals they are interested in. Learning may focus on exploring the physical aspects of an animal, their habitat, categorising animals etc.

Writing Tasks:

- Draw an animal of your choice. Label the parts of the animal. Reception children could create a fact file e.g. where does it live? What does it eat?
- Practice name writing. Can they write their first name? Middle name? Surname?
- Practice forming the letters of the alphabet. Follow your school's script.
- Ask your child to write out the tricky words they are working on at the moment on pieces of paper and turn them into a pairs game.

Other Subjects:

- **Read the story, '[Dear Zoo](#)' or watch the online video -**
 - Visit the book's website and play the [interactive games](#)
 - Add your own animal into the story and label it e.g. So they sent me a...hedgehog, but he was too prickly....so I sent him back.
 - Choose a soft toy animal or small animal figure and create a junk modelled container for it.
- **Identify the birds in your garden-**
 - Use the [RSPB](#) bird identifier website
 - Draw a picture of the birds you can see.
- **Play animal charades-**
 - Take it in turns to act as different animals. Add in noises as a clue...
- **Learn the song, '[The Animals Went in Two by Two](#)'**
 - Ask your child to draw out two of each animal and practice writing the numeral 2.
- **Looking after your pet-**
 - If you have a pet at home encourage your child to take part in their daily care. They could help feed, groom and clean up after your pet.
- **Big and small animals-**
 - Draw as many big animals as you can on one piece of paper and as many small animals as you can on another sheet of paper. Some children may be able to write a list as an alternative.
- **Find all of the animal books in your house-**
 - Ask your child to look through the books in your house and to find any with animals on the front cover. Ask them to sort the books into groups of their choice e.g. animals that can fly, swim, big, small, live on a farm/ at the zoo.
- **Create an animal den-**
 - Provide your child with blankets and sheets to make an animal den. Act out being an animal in the den.



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Week Five

The project this week aims to provide opportunities for your child to learn more about the environment. Learning may focus on changes to different environments, the impact of humans on environments, climate change etc .

Writing Tasks:

- Practice name writing. Can they write their first name? Middle name? Surname?
- Practice forming the letters of the alphabet. Follow your school's script.
- Ask your child to write out the tricky words they are working on at the moment on pieces of paper and turn them into a pairs game.
- Take your child for a litter pick around your front and back garden. Create a poster to remind people to put rubbish in the bin.

Other Subjects:

- **Create a daily weather chart-**
 - Record using pictures and written labels (where appropriate). How has the weather changed over the week?
 - If it is raining, leave a container outside to collect the rain e.g. a water bottle with the funnel cut off. Draw a line or make a mark to show where the rain came up to. Repeat overnight or the next day and compare your results.
- **Recycling/ Exploring Materials-**
 - Provide your child with a selection of packaging to sort into groups to recycle. Can they identify plastic, paper, card, metal.
- **Create your own rain cloud-**
 - Use a plastic container with a lid (e.g. a water bottle) and make small holes on one side. You could stick on cotton wool to decorate. Fill the container with water and watch as the water drips out.
- **Weather sounds (Rainmakers)**
 - Provide your child with either a plastic container, bottle or other junk modelling item. Pour in a spoon or two of rice or lentils and secure with a bottle lid or sellotape. Decorate with stickers, glitter and sequins if you have them available. Have fun exploring making rain sounds.
- **Ice-**
 - Watch '[Frozen- In Summer](#)'. Discuss with your child what they think will happen to Olaf when it gets warm. Support your child to fill up ice cube trays or plastic containers, if ice cube trays are not available, and freeze. Once frozen, take them out and explore how quickly they melt: in your hands, in the fridge, on the windowsill and when blown with the hairdryer.
 - Search on Google Maps for the UK. Discuss with your child the colour of the land and sea. Scroll up to look at the Arctic. Discuss why the land looks different in the Arctic, because the land is covered in snow and ice. Discuss the differences in temperature in the UK and the Arctic. Look at a picture of an [igloo on google](#).
 - Fill an ice cube tray with water and when frozen take out and support your child to create their own igloo out of the ice cubes.



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Week Six

The project this week aims to provide opportunities for your child to learn more food. Learning may focus on where different foods originate from, what makes a healthy meal, opportunities to cook etc.

Writing Tasks:

- Practice name writing. Can they write their first name? Middle name? Surname?
- Practice forming the letters of the alphabet. Follow your school's script.
- Ask your child to write out the tricky words they are working on at the moment on pieces of paper and turn them into a pairs game.
- Using recipes from books as a guide, ask your child to create their own recipe for their dream meal. They could draw out the ingredients and label them and draw the finished meal. Some children may be able to write a few short sentences as instructions.
- Look at a range of different packages found around the kitchen. Discuss with your child what makes it stand out to a customer. Support them to design a package for a treat of their choice.

Other Subjects:

- **Healthy/ Unhealthy-**
 - Provide your child with a selection of items from your kitchen cupboards. Can they sort them into things that are healthy and unhealthy? Discuss why the food is good for you or bad for you. Look at the [Eatwell plate](#) to help figure out which foods they should eat a lot of or not very much of.
 - Discuss how exercise is an important part of staying healthy. Watch and complete a 10 minute [shake up](#).
- **5 a day-**
 - Support your child to create a food diary to record how many pieces of fruit and vegetables they eat in a day. They could write these using their phonics knowledge or draw a picture of each item.
- **Create a collage-**
 - Ask your child to draw out a number of fruits or vegetables, large enough to fill a piece of A4 paper. Provide them with a selection of colourful packaging. Can they cut out and collage on to their picture to
- **Play shops-**
 - Using toy food or old packaging, set up a food shop for your child to act out being the shopkeeper and customer. You could introduce coins to support their developing knowledge of money. Give them a notepad to use as a shopping list to encourage in the moment writing.
- **Potato/ Vegetable Printing-**
 - Using a selection of vegetables available in your kitchen, support your child to print and explore the shapes and patterns created.
- **Make cornflour gloop-**
 - Mix cornflour with a small amount of water in a mixing bowl. It will make a slimy, stretchy mixture. Allow your child to explore the change of texture from wet to dry and the texture of the gloop.



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Week Seven

This project this week aims to provide opportunities for your child to learn more about celebrations. Learning may focus on different types of celebrations that take place and who may celebrate them. It could look at how people celebrate different events differently in other parts of the world.

Writing Tasks:

- Practice name writing. Can they write their first name? Middle name? Surname?
- Practice forming the letters of the alphabet. Follow your school's script.
- Ask your child to write out the tricky words they are working on at the moment on pieces of paper and turn them into a pairs game.
- Create a card for a celebration of your choice. Can your child use their phonics knowledge to write a message for the person they would like to give it to?
- Ask your child to draw a picture of a celebration they have taken part in. Encourage them to use their phonics knowledge to write about their memory of that day.

Other Subjects:

This project this week aims to provide opportunities for your child to learn more about celebrations. Learning may focus on different types of celebrations that take place and who may celebrate them. It could look at how people celebrate different events differently in other parts of the world.

Family Photographs-

- Look over a selection of photographs of family celebrations and discuss with your child: what the celebration was about, who attended, what you did to celebrate, when it took place, whether it is an event that happens each year. Can your child remember the event taking place? What do they remember of it?

Plan a family celebration-

- Decide on a family celebration for the week. This could be a family indoor picnic, meal, dance etc. Ask your child to write invitations to family members to the party.
- Create homemade decorations using coloured paper (If you do not have coloured paper at home, you could use old newspaper or wrapping paper) You could make paper chains or bunting
- Plan a menu for the party and make the food together.

Discover religious celebrations-

- Watch the Let's Celebrate video collection for Easter. Discuss the celebrations with your child. Did they celebrate Easter? Which of the events did they take part in?
- Watch the Let's Celebrate video collection for Eid-al-Fitr. Discuss the celebrations with your child. Did they celebrate Eid-al-Fitr? How did they celebrate? Are there any similarities and differences between the celebrations they saw in the Easter videos?
- Look through the range of videos available on Cbeebies and watch together. Discuss who celebrates the event and any similarities and differences with celebrations your child has taken part in.

Birthdays-

- Talk to your child about when they were born. Look at photographs of the day they were born, if you have them available. Do they know the date of their birthday? Support your child to create an all about me folding book (as pictured) with their birth date, current age and anything else they think is important for people to know about them.