

Topic Overview for Parents

Term- Spring 1

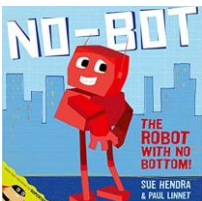
Welcome to our new topic, **‘Crash, bang BOOM!’**



Rationale

In this topic we will be embarking on a journey of discovery about the world around us. We will be becoming scientists, engineers and investigators and will be thinking about all things to do with science, technology and construction. Hard hats and lab coats at the ready!

TOPIC	Enquiry Question	Sparkly Starter
Crash Bang BOOM!	How do things work? What happens if...?	Science Day Writing focus: writing instructions for experiments done at school to then try at home.

Story Maker	Key Literature	Fab Finish
No-Bot By Paul Linnet and Sue Hendra 	No-Bot- Story Maker The Three Little Pigs The Three Billy Goats Gruff Izzy Gizmo Duck in a Truck	Science experiments at home to go on Tapestry Show and share home and school learning on Tapestry

Literacy

In Literacy this half term the children will be learning the story of No-Bot during their story maker sessions. This will be to help children develop their love of stories as well as their story vocabulary.

We will be focussing on using our phonic knowledge to decode simple words as well as using the red words learnt so far to read and understand simple sentences.

When writing, the children will be using their sounds to write simple words and sentences. We continue to encourage children to use the correct letter formation to ensure their writing can be read by themselves and others.

This term we will be continuing our daily Drawing Club sessions. Drawing Club is a highly creative approach to writing and mark-making which immerses children into a world full of imagination where anything can happen and often does! It's based on a mixture of picture books, traditional tales and animations.

We will also be continuing our 'Squiggle Whilst you Wiggle' sessions to help develop the fine and gross motor skills the children need to form their letters.

Creative Arts and PSHCE

In our creative areas the focus will be on design technology. The children will be using their creative and critical thinking skills to design and make a bridge for the Billy Goats Gruff. They will need to select and use a variety of materials based on their properties, form and function. They will be encouraged to evaluate their work and adapt it if necessary.

In music, the children will use instruments to enhance the story of the Three Billy Goats' Gruff. They will also be using vocal sounds and body percussion to create their own compositions.

In PSHCE 'SCARF' sessions the children will be discussing 'Keeping Safe'. The children will learn how to keep themselves safe, keeping safe online and outdoors.

Maths

During this term the children will be counting with numbers to 20 as being able to say which number is one more or one less up to 10. They will be recognising numbers to 10 as well as understanding the composition of each number.

The children will be adding and subtracting using numbers to 10 and will be taught a range of mathematical vocabulary to do with calculation, patterns, 3D shapes, positional language, money, time and comparison of size and weight.

Understanding the World

There is a strong science focus for our new topic. The children will have the opportunity to observe and explore a range of scientific activities from growing plants to watching amazing chemical reactions. The children will be taught to observe, ask questions and discuss their findings.

Physical Development

This half term the children will be representing their ideas, thoughts and feelings through dance. They will be taught to negotiate spaces safely while demonstrating strength, balance and co-ordination. They will learn to move energetically and when appropriate, try to move in time with music.

Home learning

Reading at home

It has been fantastic to see so many children reading regularly and completing their phonics homework. Don't forget, your child earns a book bug sticker for every 11 reads at home (either books they have read or ones that have been read to them). Once they have 4 book bug stickers (a total of 44 reads), they get to choose a book bug to take home.

Every Thursday, we count up the number of children having read 3 or more times at home (taken from reading records). These children get to go into a reading raffle to win a prize. Also, in Friday's Golden Assembly, the class with the most regular readers gets an additional reward!

Red Word Cards

Please help your child to practise reading their red words on the sheet in their reading diary. These will be assessed regularly to check progress and a new castle sheet will be added once the previous one has been completed. Once your child can read all 4 red word cards, the focus will be on helping them to learn to spell these red words.

Home learning for new topic



We would love to see any exciting experiments the children do at home. Please upload these to Tapestry so that your child can share and celebrate them with their class.

Tapestry

To help us to get an accurate picture of your child's development, we strongly encourage you to celebrate your child's achievements with us through Tapestry as it is important that we have a balance of wow moments from home as well as from school.

Other Information

Library books, reading books and reading records

- Please ensure these are kept in bookbags. Library books will be changed on Tuesdays. If for any reason this is not possible, they will be changed on an alternative day. New library books will not be issued until the previous ones have been returned.
- Individual reading books will be changed on a weekly basis. Please ensure they are in book bags on Mondays so they can be collected in and changed for new ones, which will be reissued on Tuesdays.

Dates for this term

Monday 5th January – Children back to school

Wednesday 11th February – Parents' Evening

Thursday 12th February – Parents' Evening

Friday 13th February– last day of school before half term

Half term break- Monday 16th – Friday 20th February

Monday 23rd February- Children start back at school

Many thanks for your continued support

The Reception Team

