



## Ideas to support your child with understanding the world

Children and babies have a natural curiosity about the world around. This interest in curiosity is an essential part of a child's development as they learn from every experience and interaction they have. Simple day to day activities like going on the bus, walking in the park or having a splash in the bath are all experiences that provide so much opportunity for learning and exploration. At Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School we ensure that every child's curiosity is nurtured and encouraged so that all of the children have the opportunity to examine, investigate, question, predict and problem solve within the environment. Everyday provides an opportunity for something new and exciting for the children to enjoy, we often host visitors like firemen, dancers, police officers and musicians for the children to have an interactive learning experience. We celebrate a wide range of cultural celebrations which encourage the children to immerse themselves in the food, music and celebrations of other cultures and provides a sensory experience. The local community is an important part of nursery life, we enjoy local walks, days out to the park, and trips to the supermarket. Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School is very lucky to have our own minibus and we use this to develop children's interests and broaden their experiences by taking short trips to places like the museum, local library, dance classes or garden centre.

The wide range of experience we offer to the children at Sandy Lane Nursery and Forest School supports the children to increase their knowledge and understand of the world around them. Children learn about the different people in our society and different cultures, they learn about how some things change and some things stay the same, what things are, how they work and what things can do. We use technology within these activities, things like taking photos or videos of an event, using magnifiers to look at things more closely and explore how to take care of our environment through forest school and play experiences. Stories, songs and non-fiction books are also valuable ways in supporting children as they learn to 'understand the world'

If you have any questions about your child's learning and development please speak to your key worker who will be happy to help.



### Did you know??

Talking with your child and sharing 'information' books is also a great way of enriching and broadening their vocabulary which helps to support their early reading.

### At home you could

- Turn everyday jobs like walking to nursery, making a snack or helping in the garden into an opportunity to learn and discuss. Encourage your child's curiosity by answering questions and explaining the world around them. Try to allow them to be hands on and helpful at home by digging holes in the garden ready for new plants, or chopping up cucumber sticks ready for a snack.
- Talk about the important people in your lives. Encourage your child to talk about their family and friends and the experiences they have had with them, like a trip to the park with their grandma.
- Research together. If your child asks you a question and you aren't sure of the answer use your phone or tablet to do some research and make it an exciting experience. If your child has particular interest in dinosaurs for example then take some time together to learn some interesting facts that your child can share with their peers at nursery.
- Talk about the different people you may see on a walk or a trip to the shops, if you see an ambulance or a police car talk about their important jobs and how they help us.
- Talk about the changing seasons. Every change of season means an opportunity to collect different natural resources from conkers in the autumn, to pretty flowers in the spring. Explore and learn about the changes together.

At home you could

- Make bath time an exciting learning opportunity. Talk to your child about the way different toys do different things, for example talk to your child about the way toy boats float in the bath and how sponges soak up the water and sink to the bottom. Model filling up buckets and then tipping them out so that they are empty. This is great way to introduce your child to different vocabulary.
- Help the environment. You could talk to your child about the litter on the floor and pick some up and put it into the bin. You could plant some seeds in spring and grow your own vegetables or flowers. You could create bug houses for insects to feel safe in. Use these opportunities to explain the importance of look after the world and taking care of the animals and insects that also live on the world with us.

#### Useful Websites



**Biggleton** – Learn about the different jobs people do in the community

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/biggleton>

**Live shows** – Theatre productions from Shakespeare to The Three Little Pigs

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/cbeebies-presents>

**Junk Rescue** – Using traditional crafts to recycle something old into something new

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/junk-rescue>

**Let's Celebrate** – Join children as they celebrate different faith and cultural festivals

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/lets-celebrate>

**Maddie's Do You Know?** – Join Maddie as she finds out how things work

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/do-you-know>

**Nina and the Neurons** – Help Nina with exciting experiments: science, engineering and coding games on-line

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/nina-and-the-neurons>

**Girls Friendly Society**— Fun ideas for planting and growing with your children

[https://girlsfriendsociety.org.uk/gfs-lockdown-activities-gardening-week/?gclid=CjwKCAjwruSHBhAtEiwA\\_qCppoUIxyTRTOG5TCAFeRpwNNTV DmehrsEBf-5fHrRmHpojQOoo\\_vK2uBoCyrUQAvD\\_BwE](https://girlsfriendsociety.org.uk/gfs-lockdown-activities-gardening-week/?gclid=CjwKCAjwruSHBhAtEiwA_qCppoUIxyTRTOG5TCAFeRpwNNTV DmehrsEBf-5fHrRmHpojQOoo_vK2uBoCyrUQAvD_BwE)

**Wild Life Watch**—Activities and ideas for helping our world.

<https://www.wildlifewatch.org.uk/activities>



Our weekly home learning regularly includes forest school activities that you can try at home. Look out for these on Tapestry. We would love to see your posts!

**IMPORTANT** – Please remember to check all website links to ensure the content is appropriate before sharing with your child