

# Staying positive takes a lot of work. You're doing great.

Hello,

I hope that you are all well and looking forward to the week ahead – it's going to be a hot one!

I have been thinking of some ideas which I think you child will enjoy and also support their language and learning development. Feel free to have a go and enjoy 😊

**Feely Bag** You could create your own feely bag, such as an old rucksack, an empty tissue box or cereal box (please no plastic bags) with items in from around the house. Use a bag that your child cannot see through. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to explore their senses. Encourage your child to think about texture and descriptive terms for the objects. Are they bumpy, bubbly, coarse or furry? Children can develop a wide vocabulary by thinking about different texture words. You can use this activity to try and match different items. Can you find two objects that are bumpy or two that are smooth?

## **Twinkle Twinkle Little Star**

### **Introduction**

This is great for language skills and lots of fun! Rhymes are really important for children's literacy and communication skills.

Twinkle Twinkle Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are.  
Up above the world so high,  
Like a diamond in the sky.

### **Activities**

#### **Singing**

Have fun singing or saying the rhyme together. Make your own actions for the stars twinkling in the night sky. When you talk about up above, reach up high. You can be as dramatic and expressive as you wish. Talk about stars Where and when will you see them? Use this as an opportunity to enrich your child's language and to have conversations.

#### **Make your own stars**

You could draw them and cut them out. Can you make stars in different sizes and patterns? Perhaps you could make them out of different materials. You could try play dough or salt dough. Why not make some star biscuits and ice them. Remember to seek out the opportunities to develop their vocabulary and their understanding. Describe the stars you made. Are they stripy, shiny, sparkly, smooth, zigzagged, soft etc? Which one do you like the best and why? Can you make one that looks like a diamond in the night sky? This is great for learning about properties and scientific language. Try sticking tin foil onto card and then cutting out star shapes. You could

make patterns with a pencil on the foil. How many stars do you have? Count them together, touching each one as you say the number.

Feeling energetic? Why not do some star jumps! See how many you can do, counting as you go.

### **Make a rocket ship**

Why not create your own rocket ship together to fly to the stars. You could make this from old boxes, plastic containers, scrap materials and other bits and bobs you can find. Cutting, creating, designing, imagining and inventing are all great learning opportunities. Where will your rocket ship travel to? Will there be a count down... 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, blast off? What name will you give your super spacecraft? You may have toy figures that you can incorporate into the play. Your child may pretend to travel through the air and into space. Which planet will they go to? You can use language such as soar, speed, zoom, float and atmosphere. Why not make a spaceship from your sofa cushions and other bits and bobs A spoon may be a gear stick or a colander might be a part of the control panel. Use what you have around the house. Pretend you are an astronaut on a mission. This creative activity is great for encouraging them to make up stories, be imaginative and enrich their language.

### **A little bit of Maths...** 😊

#### Introduction

There's so much you can do about learning about sizes and measurement in a play based way. It is important to use lots of different terms to increase your child's mathematical vocabulary as well as their understanding.

#### Vocabulary

Long, longer, shorter, short, wide, narrow, big, little huge, immense, giant, minute, tiny, teeny, same, taller, etc..

#### Activities

- Find your dolls, teddies, play figures etc. Line them up from the tallest to the shortest.
  - How tall are you? Can you measure your height? Young children often like playing with tape measures. Let them just experience and explore. They could also play with rulers and see how long things are.
  - Use a spoon as a measuring device. Go around and see if things are the same size, shorter or longer than the spoon.
  - Why not make a paper chain. Talk about this getting, longer, the more you add. You could measure it. You could also count the links together.
  - How many strides is the room length? How many steps is it?
  - Who is the tallest in your house? Who is the shortest and who is in the middle?
  - Can you make a list or a collection of teeny, tiny things? What other words describe small?
  - Which things are larger than e.g. a cow? Could it be a bus, a whale, a house, a car etc? Make a list or draw things.
  - Draw around your hands. Who has the largest hands? How many fingers do you have?
  - Make long and short play dough worms and snakes.



### 100 square games and activities

- Pick a number to start from and count in 1's, 2's, 5's and 10's.
- Make it fun and count in funny voices – can you count like a robot or with a very high voice?
- Cover up several numbers on the 100 square. Can you work out which numbers are missing?
- Find all the numbers whose digits add up to 15. Then pick another total.
- Pick two numbers. Find the difference. Find the total.



Can you fill in the missing numbers?

2	3		
	13	14	
22		24	

34		36	37
44	45		47
		56	57

	69	70
78		
	89	90

41		43
51		53
	62	

6		
16	17	18
		28

	22	23	
31			34
41		43	44

74	75		77	78
84		86		88
	95			98

It can help us in lots of areas of maths if we can quickly recall our multiplication facts.

### Let's get practising our 3x, 4x, 6x and 8x table!

**3x**

1 x 3 = 3
2 x 3 = 6
3 x 3 = 9
4 x 3 = 12
5 x 3 = 15
6 x 3 = 18
7 x 3 = 21
8 x 3 = 24
9 x 3 = 27
10 x 3 = 30
11 x 3 = 33
12 x 3 = 36

**4x**

1 x 4 = 4
2 x 4 = 8
3 x 4 = 12
4 x 4 = 16
5 x 4 = 20
6 x 4 = 24
7 x 4 = 28
8 x 4 = 32
9 x 4 = 36
10 x 4 = 40
11 x 4 = 44
12 x 4 = 48

**6x**

1 x 6 = 6
2 x 6 = 12
3 x 6 = 18
4 x 6 = 24
5 x 6 = 30
6 x 6 = 36
7 x 6 = 42
8 x 6 = 48
9 x 6 = 54
10 x 6 = 60
11 x 6 = 66
12 x 6 = 72

**8x**

1 x 8 = 8
2 x 8 = 16
3 x 8 = 24
4 x 8 = 32
5 x 8 = 40
6 x 8 = 48
7 x 8 = 56
8 x 8 = 64
9 x 8 = 72
10 x 8 = 80
11 x 8 = 88
12 x 8 = 96

Remember we are still a school, even though we may not all be together yet. We are so proud of you all!

Best wishes, Miss Haynes