What We’re Doing (Activities) –

Week Beginning: Wednesday 6th of January

**Daily Activities**

**Book of the Week**: *Elmer*

**Weekly Song or Rhyme: Nelly the elephant** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6alqP9YMS3k>

**Let’s Get Physical:**

Some form of physical exercise that raises your child’s heart rate, makes them breathe faster and feel warmer. This is a great opportunity to talk about our health and what exercise does to our bodies so feel your heart beat before you do activities and afterwards. What do you notice? What happens to your breath?

**Play:** Spend some time playing with your child at *an activity they have chosen*. This is a perfect opportunity for being imaginative and developing lots of language.

Dear Parents, this timetable outlines some fun activities you can do to support your child’s learning and development at home. They have been planned according to the areas of learning we focus on in Early Years.

They are all adaptable to your circumstances and resources and where possible open ended so you can develop them to suit your child’s own interests or needs. For example – If a maths activity focus’ is about counting and matching a number of objects to number cards 1-5, but your child is confident in counting in 1s and recognising numbers 1-5 you might want to work on counting out say 3 items and then putting 1 more item to understand ‘1 more’ after a given number.

Likewise, some activities might suit you better on different days so please feel free to swap them if you like.

This term’s focus is ‘**Our World**’ so please do explore your child’s interests and find out about different places in the world. Do you have any family or friends from different countries? What is it like there, compared to where you live?

Get moving: Can you move like the animals in the story? An elephant? A snake? A monkey? How do they move differently? Make sure you are out of breath by all your ‘animaling’ around!

Wednesday

Creative-

Make some playdough using this simple recipe. Keep it in a bag and it will stop from drying out.

Playdough recipe:

 1 cup of flour.

 1/4 cup of salt.

 3/4 cup of water.

 1 tablespoon of vegetable oil.

optional

 Food colouring.

 Any seasonings or scents you would like

As well as being very popular, it is great for developing hand strength. You can use what you have in the house such as cutlery, a rolling pin, cookie cutters.

You can use your playdough everyday this week!

Maths-

This is our simple counting to 20 song we sing a lot in school. Please play it everyday to help count to 20.

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VLxWIHRD4E**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0VLxWIHRD4E)

Read our book of the week:

‘Elmer and the Patchwork elephant’

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TUepS9yGANQ>

Tips:

Saying number names in order is a separate skill from counting. Make sure you make lots of opportunities throughout the day to bring number into what you are doing. How many red cars can you count? How many aeroplanes today?

Tips:

The idea is to really get into the story, watch it lots of times so it is a story your child knows and can tell you themselves. A good idea is to stop and check they understand the story but asking some questions. I will suggest some tomorrow.

Get moving: here’s an animal song to dance to.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HpOe8lngp>\_o

Thursday

Creative-

Elmer is a very colourful elephant. He is called patchwork because of the squares on his body. What colours can you see? **Can you create your own patchwork animal?** It doesn’t have to be an elephant, but draw a simple outline first.



Maths-

Count to 5, 10 then 20 then play ‘Number hunt!’
Which numbers can you see in the house? Out of the window? On a walk?

Read again:

‘Elmer and the Patchwork elephant’

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TUepS9yGANQ>

Questions you might ask:

What is it like where Elmer lives? Elmer makes the elephants smile. What does a smile tell us about how some one feels? Elmer doesn’t want to be different. What could you say to him to make him feel happy about being a bit different?

Tips:

It can be more of a challenge to count to different numbers than 10 every time, so see if you can count to 7 and stop or 13 before stopping. Even trickier is to start at different numbers! You could try counting things you can’t see like claps or jumps.

Get moving: yoga stories for kids:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GM616bRA>\_uw

Friday

Creative :

Can you make a mask?

Here is a link for how to make an elephant mask. You can choose what kind of mask you’d like to create.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MPoNV4SdNiY>

Maths- Number card hide and seek.

Make some number cards. Start 1-5 or 1-10 depending on your level. Hide them around the house/room. Find them. Which number is it? Can you count 3 things?, Can you count 5 things?…

Find a new and unusual spot to do some reading today. Maybe under a table with a sheet over the top? Can you tell each other the story of Elmer the patchwork elephant?

Tips – retelling the story is really important as it uses all sorts of skills. To help, you could use actions, puppets, pictures or a story map to help remember the sequence of the story.

Shape spotting –

Watch the Elmer video. What different shapes can you spot? Can you see squares, triangles, rectangles and circles?