

## **Nursery adult-led activities for home learning    Week 16    06-01-21    Theme: Epiphany/Art Week**

When we broke up for Christmas I did not expect to be producing home learning packs this early in January! Some of you will remember accessing similar activities during the March lockdown last year, but for most parents this will be new to you. As there are 3 days left this week there are 3 adult-led activities here for you to do with your child. In Nursery our activities are divided into 7 Areas of Learning in our curriculum- the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). One of the areas of learning, 'Personal, Social and Emotional Development', does not have a formal teaching activity as it permeates everything. The activities planned for this week, which are based on the ones I had planned to use in school, cover the other Areas of Learning. The activity for the 6<sup>th</sup> January is based on the feast of Epiphany, which is always celebrated on January 6<sup>th</sup>. It marks the end of the Christmas season and is the day when we remember the 3 wise men bringing their gifts to Jesus. We continue to think about presents on Thursday and then end the week with the Art Week activity I had planned, which is linked to the work of the sculptor Antony Gormley.

Each activity shows the Area of Learning covered, what the activity is, and some instructions about what to do. I hope it's easy to follow- if not then please let me know! The activities shouldn't take too long to complete but will involve you spending some dedicated 1:1 time with your child.

If you have access to a printer you will be able to print out the resources provided with this planning. If you don't have access to a printer, then your child could look at the screen of the phone/tablet/computer you are using and point to the things you ask them to find. When trying activities such as cutting wrapping paper or cutting out photos from magazines please support your child to try themselves, helping them if needed by holding or turning the paper, but encouraging them to try and complete the task independently. Again, if you choose to make salt dough for the art activity please talk your child through what to do but let them try themselves as much as possible.

Each activity shows which resources you will need for each one. I have also attached some ideas for other structured play activities your child may wish to try. There is no obligation to use any of them but you may find the extra ideas helpful. It's also really enjoyable and valuable to spend as much time as you can reading stories to your child and talking about them- asking your child to suggest what might happen next and why, or to tell you about their favourite characters or what they would do in the same situation.

I hope you enjoy trying these activities. Please feel free to include other children in them if that makes it easier for your family. If there is anything you are finding difficult or you would like some advice about what to do please contact me, either via Tapestry or the class email [nursery@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@st-edmunds-rc.oxon.sch.uk)

Good luck!

Mrs Fiona Semple

Area of Learning	Activity	Comments
Communication and Language, Understanding the World, Physical Development	Gifts for baby Jesus	<p>Today (6<sup>th</sup> January) we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany and the end of the Christmas season. One of the things children love about Christmas is receiving presents! Have a talk with your child about their Christmas presents- which ones were they most excited about? Which ones do they like best and why? If you wish, you could video your child talking about their presents and upload it to Tapestry for me to see! Tell your child the story of the Epiphany and make the link between your child receiving presents and Jesus receiving presents. If you have a children's Bible you could use that, or if not you could watch this video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ofFRSwl2XKU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ofFRSwl2XKU</a> The wise men gave Jesus gifts- gold because they knew he was a king, frankincense to symbolise holiness, and myrrh to foreshadow his death. Each of these gifts is very symbolic for the life and ministry of Jesus, but not what we would choose as a gift for a baby! Talk with your child about what they think a baby needs, and how babies are different to children, with different needs and abilities.</p> <p>If you have access to a printer, please print a copy of the <a href="#">Epiphany worksheet</a>. Use any magazines or catalogues you may have at home and let your child choose some pictures of things they would choose to give a new baby then cut them out and stick them on the page. If you don't have access to a printer then encourage your child to look around your house and make a collection of things they think a baby might need- perhaps some toys they used to love when they were babies? If possible, please photograph what your child chooses and upload it to Tapestry for me to see.</p> <p>If you wish to continue the Epiphany theme, there is a Children's Liturgy about Epiphany led by a good friend of mine who is a Catholic youth worker in Liverpool available here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O4B3HSly_2Y">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O4B3HSly_2Y</a></p>
Communication and Language/ Physical Development/ Mathematics	Ordering presents by size	<p>Talk with your child again about Christmas and their Christmas presents. What was their largest present? What was their smallest present? Are the biggest presents always the best ones? Today we will be ordering presents by size, either smallest to largest or largest to smallest. There are several ways you could do this with your child. If you have any empty boxes and wrapping paper around your house you could support your child to wrap the boxes (a great activity for practising fine motor skills!) and then let your child order them by size. If you have access to a printer you could use the <a href="#">Present size ordering sheet</a>, either cutting out the presents yourself and allowing your child to order them and glue them on to a strip of paper or helping your child to cut them out themselves before ordering them. If this is not possible you could ask your child to collect some of their favourite toys and see if they can order them by size, encouraging them to choose objects in a range of different sizes. Whatever you do, please send photos via Tapestry as I'd love to see what you and your child have been doing!</p>
Physical Development/ Expressive Arts and Design	Antony Gormley inspired sculpture	<p>If we were in school, this week would have been our whole school 'Art Week', when each class looks at the work of a different artist and creates some artwork inspired by the work of that artist. In Nursery we are going to look at the work of the modern British sculptor Antony Gormley. Antony Gormley produces work based on the human body and we will focus on his Turner Prize winning work 'Field for the British Isles'. Some of Antony Gormley's other work includes the 'Angel of the North' at Gateshead near Newcastle and 'Another Place' on Crosby Beach, Liverpool. I have prepared a PowerPoint showing</p>

		<p>these sculptures as well as 'Field for the British Isles'- see the <a href="#">Antony Gormley</a> PowerPoint (and you may also see a familiar face! 😊).</p>
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'Field for the British Isles' is made up of lots of individual clay figures. They are very simple to make and could be made from traditional clay, playdough or salt dough. If you have playdough at home then please feel free to use that, and follow the [Antony Gormley art activity](#) instructions. If you don't have any playdough then you could easily make some salt dough with your child using flour, salt and water- see [Salt Dough recipe](#). The original artwork contained lots of figures so you could encourage your child to make several figures or get the whole family involved! Once again, please upload a photo of your finished artwork to Tapestry, as I'd love to see the sculptures!