

Dear Parents,

We will be using the theme of 'Pirates' to introduce your child to different areas of learning. If you should like to follow this up at home, here are a few ideas you might like to try.

Talking

- Talk about what it might be like to live on a ship. Share a book such as 'Look inside a Pirate Ship' by Minna Lacey to give you ideas for discussion.
- Use the internet and information books to find out about some famous pirates.

Making

- Make a pirate costume. Use black card to make a hat and a kitchen roll tube to make a telescope.
- Make a treasure chest. Wrap a shoe box in brown parcel paper and use a marker pen to add details. Fill it with old costume jewellery and pretend gold coins.
- Make a pirate ship. Paint a large cardboard box brown and use a marker pen to add details. Make a Jolly Roger flag and use an old broom handle and sheet for a sail.

Playing

- If you have a sand tray, bury treasure in it for your child to find.
- Play with boats in the bath or in tubs of water outside
- Hide treasure around the house and in the garden for your child to discover.
- Play online pirate games – use child friendly websites such as 'Swashbuckle Adventures' on CBeebies

Stories

There is a fantastic selection of picture books about pirates available. Some great choices include:

Pirates Love Underpants by Claire Freedman and Ben Cort
The Night Pirates by Peter Harris and Deborah Allwright
Class Three All at Sea by Julia Jarman and Lynne Chapman
My Granny is a Pirate by Val McDermid and Arthur Robin
Port Side Pirates by Oscar Seaworthy and Debbie Harter

Out and About

- Visit the library and find out more about pirates from information books
- Go to a local museum and view any exhibits they might have about pirates.

What Are The Opportunities For Learning?

- Developing an understanding of what pirates are and finding out about some famous examples.
- Using computers and operating simple programmes.
- Asking questions, investigating and exploring.
- Learning how to find information from books and the Internet.
- Experiencing handling modelling and craft materials.
- Enjoying stories and imaginative play.