



ALL ABOUT ME

Squirrel Class

SAXON WOOD SCHOOL

Autumn Term 1 - 2022

ALL ABOUT ME

This half term the children will be reading the book 'Giraffe's can't dance' and we will be investigating all the things that make us who we are and how we differ to other people.

We will also be learning all about the Colour Monster. He feels very mixed up and uses colour to understand his emotions. We will be using the book to look at our own emotions but also to learn about lots of different colours.

The Black Book of colours will help us to describe and recognise colours by their taste and smell. Our end product will be our colourful feelings jars.

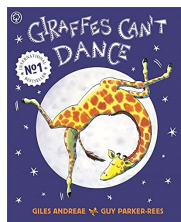
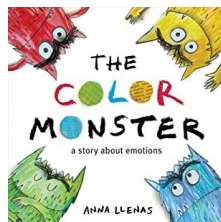
PRIME AREAS OF LEARNING

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

This half term we will be using the book 'The Colour Monster' to explore our emotions and feelings whilst learning to express and regulate them, where possible, through the use of colour.

We will also begin to develop friendships with the other children in the class, sitting together for activities and meal times and playing with our friends to encourage sharing and turn taking.

Outdoor Learning: We will be exploring the sensory garden and looking at things in nature that make us feel calm and happy.



Communication and Language

Bucket Time is a key part of our day where we get together as a class and develop our listening and attention skills. Once we have mastered our listening and attention skills during part 1 and 2 of bucket time, we get the opportunity to join in and take turns for part 3.

We will be focussing on key symbols and Makaton signs such as 'stop', 'finished' and 'chair' to develop our communication skills in class.

Outdoor Learning: We will learn some Makaton signs such as 'outside', 'garden' and 'tree'.

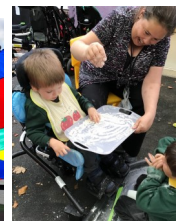


Physical Development

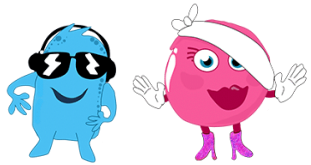
This half term we will be teaming up with Dormouse class to experience a variety of cooperation games using the parachute. We will working as part of a team learning how to lift, lower and shake (where possible) and building those anticipation skills.

We will be working on our fine motor skills through our creative activities such as PlayDoh Gym, painting and mark making.

Outdoor Learning: We will be making full use of the outdoor playground, taking it in turns with our friends on the roundabout and exploring all of the outdoor play equipment Squirrel class has to offer.



SPECIFIC AREAS OF LEARNING



Literacy



Stories:

We will be reading a wide range of stories this term. Our key texts are 'The Colour Monster' and 'Giraffe's can't dance' but will also be looking at a variety of stories with familiar settings such as Jill Murphy's 'Five minutes peace' and 'Spot's adventures'. We like to enjoy a book together before lunch and at the end of the day.

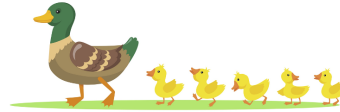
Phonics:

This term is all about introducing the children to the monster phonics characters, learning all about them, where they live and what they like to do. Once they have gained an understanding of who each of the characters are we will then start to introduce our first sounds: S, A, T, P.

Mark Making & Writing:

We will be offering a number of mark making opportunities for the children to explore through messy play and creative activities that will link to our 'All about me' topic but will also help to develop their pre-writing skills. For those children that are ready to move on we will be looking at tracing lines, shapes and letters.

Outdoor Learning: We have a lovely outdoor reading area that we will enjoy some stories in this half term.



Maths



Numbers 1-5:

We will be learning about the numbers 1-5 through a variety of number songs such as '5 little ducks' and '5 currant buns'. We will be using numicon, number blocks and number lines to help us with recognising and counting the numbers 1-5.

For some children, we will be focusing on the 'oneness of one'. This will be in the form of play through both our indoor and outdoor provision i.e. 'can you find me one duck?'.

Our maths will also link to our 'All about me' topic where we learn about the different parts of our bodies and how many of these parts we have for example we have one nose and two ears.

Big and Small:

We will be looking at the concept of 'big' and 'small' and making comparisons between a variety of items both in our classroom and in our outdoor areas.

Outdoor Learning: There will be lots of great opportunities to incorporate maths into our outdoor adventures. From counting to 5 as we take turns on our play equipment to counting in nature and making the comparisons between big and small as we explore the lovely grounds of our school during our nature walks.

SPECIFIC AREAS OF LEARNING

Understanding the World

We will be investigating our senses this half term to understand that through our nose we can smell, our ears we hear, our eyes we can see, our hands we can touch and our mouth we can taste. The children will be encouraged to take part in a range of sensory play activities and music sessions to really awaken some of those senses and experience a wide variety of natural and man made objects that will intrigue their senses.

We will also be looking at how we grow from babies to adults and would be very grateful if you could send in 3 photos of your child, one from when they were newborn, one at 1 years old and one of them now to enable them to see the comparisons. We will be creating a visual timeline to show how they have changed over the years.

Expressive Art & Design

In our expressive art and design sessions we will be looking out our faces and using a range of mixed media to come up with some self portraits.

Our books 'The Colour Monster' and 'The black book of colours' will give us the opportunity to explore colours. We will be able to make coloured mood monsters which links to our Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

In our music sessions we will be singing songs that link to our 'All about me' topic such as 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes' and learning all about body percussion and how we can make music with our bodies for example clapping, tapping and stamping.



Additional Information

Please could we have 3 x photos of your child: one newborn photo, one at approx. 1 years old and a recent photo either printed and sent in or emailed to k.meade@saxonwood.hants.sch.uk no later than Friday 30th September to assist with our topic 'All about me'.

National Poetry Day: Thursday 6th October 2022

Half Term: 24th—28th October 2022

Useful Links

www.monsterphonics.com