

SUMMER TERM WEEK 7: NURSERY HOME LEARNING

Try to complete 2/3 activities a day with your child.



The Little Red Hen



Maths Activities

- Make a collection of items from the story (e.g. hens, cats, dogs, ducks and windmills). These could then be used for a variety of counting, addition and subtraction activities.
- When making recipes like bread, encourage the children to help measure and count the different ingredients.
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- Explore 2D and 3D shapes with the children, and make farm buildings with them.
- Provide weighing scales in the farm shop role play area (see EAD) so that the children can weigh out produce.
- **Numberblocks** watch a clip on Cbeebies every day at: [BBC or Cbeebies](https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p065s47t), and have fun recreating the number characters with blocks or objects around your house. Use this guide [here to give](#) you ideas on what to do with your children whilst watching an episode.
- Sing a number song:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p065s47t>



Literacy Activities

- Read lots of different farm-themed books to the children, encouraging them to join in with repeated refrains.
- Play a listening and attention game with the children. Place a number of items from the Little Red Hen story on a tray and cover with a blanket. Ask the children to guess how many are there, then double check by counting. Remove one of the objects, can they say which one has been removed?
- Compare different versions of the 'Little Red Hen' story. How are they similar/different? How are the characters different/similar?
- **Create a phonics tray** for things starting with 'r' or 'h'.
- **Draw a picture of what you did today.** Write down what your child tells you about their picture.



Topic Activities

- Listen to 'Little Red Hen' by Jonathan Allen.
Story - <https://safeYouTube.net/w/Y7GH>

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Audio story - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/radio/floellas-story-sack-the-little-red-hen>

- Look at the story without the sound – can children re-tell the story?
- Stick some large sheets of paper over a table top and encourage children to draw a story map. Encourage them to talk about and retell the story in their own words.
- Have [Role Play Masks](#) or these [Stick Puppets](#) and props from the story available. Encourage the children to act out the story.
- Set up a small world version of the story to encourage children to retell it.
- Encourage the children to listen to and follow instructions to use this [Recipe](#), to make some bread rolls!
- Model writing simple letters with the children. This could be from the duck, cat or dog to say sorry for not helping the Little Red Hen or from the Little Red Hen to the other animals asking for some help.
- Place a number of small world farm animals on a tray and cover with a blanket. Ask the children to guess how many are there, then double check by counting. Remove one of the animals, can they say which one has been removed?

Personal, Social and Emotional:

- Talk to the children about why it is important to be a good friend. Do the children think the other animals were being a good friend to the Little Red Hen? Why/Why not? This [How to be a Good Friend resource](#) has some great picture prompts to help.
- Discuss the different characters in the story. What was their behaviour like? Why? Why do you think they might not want to help the Little Red Hen?
 - Work together in to create windmills out of block/construction or junk modelling.
- You could explore the difference between chickens that are free range and those which are caged. How are their living conditions different? Which do the children prefer and why?

Let's get moving:

- Encourage the children to move like different animals e.g. skip like lambs, paddle like ducks and gallop like horses.
- Encourage the children to pretend that they are farmers on an imaginary walk around a farm, which involves lots of positional language. You may go through muddy tracks, up ladders into hay lofts, around fields and into barns to dig and sow etc
- Try this 'Cosmic Kids Yoga' - 'On The Farm'

<https://safeYouTube.net/w/1fpl>

Or for a higher energy workout, try [one of these five minute workouts](#)

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- It is important to continue to develop strength and dexterity in your children's hands. There are a number of ideas [here](#) so choose something that you have resources for at home.
- Provide some salt dough for the children to use in role play activities. They could also create some bread and rolls by molding and shaping the dough.

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- Give the children some grains and pulses, bowls and some spoons or large tweezers. Can they sort the grains and pulses into sets based on size or colour?
- Plant and grow some wheat and use scissors to harvest it as it grows!
- Create a farm themed obstacle course for the children to complete! Include hoops to jump in to plant the grains of wheat, cones to weave through to cut the wheat, ramps to walk up and down to take the flour to the mill and beanbags to throw into buckets to put the bread in the oven!
- Encourage the children to explore mark making, by using water to 'paint' outside using different sized rollers and brushes to create lines, shapes, pictures and patterns. Can they paint the wheat growing in the field?

Get Creative:

- Use percussion instruments to make the sound of the different parts of the story. Encourage the children to think about which instrument would be best for the different characters and actions, as well as how they should be played (quiet/loud, slow and fast).
- Using a simple script of the story, read it aloud whilst the children move and act it out.
- Explore ways of moving to demonstrate the different characters in the story.
- Support the children to make some [Salt Dough](#), then shape and decorate the dough to look like fruit and vegetables, to sell in the role play Farm Shop.
- Sing some farm related songs such as Old McDonald Had a Farm.
- Create a [Farm Shop Role Play](#) area with baskets, straw, a till, money, real or play food, food labels, food posters, shopping lists and pencils.
- Cover a table with paper and provide pens for the children to draw their own story map / farm.
- Set up a messy play area with wheat heads, flour, water, herbs and pestle and mortars. The children could explore grinding the flour, then mixing it with the other ingredient to make bread.
- Have some gloopy mud in a tough spot, with potato halves cut into different hoof shapes. The children could explore mixing the mud and also making hoof prints. Discuss which animal the hoof prints might belong to.
- Use a variety of large construction materials (crates, hollow blocks, planks etc.) for children to construct farm buildings that are strong and safe enough for animals to live in.

Investigate:

- Take a look here at how we harvest food...
[T-T-13229-How-is-Our-Food-Harvested-PowerPoint \(1\).pptx](#)
- Make bread with the children, encourage them to try it and express their likes and dislikes. You could also explore other recipes to make with flour, e.g. cakes, pizza dough and pastry.
- Encourage the children to taste some different types of bread and say which is their favourite (remembering to be aware of any allergies).
- Use the children's interest in the story as a springboard for finding out more about animals, windmills and farms. Research on the Internet using a child-friendly search engine.
- Take a look at the animals at Folly Fram using this link to a live webcam
<https://www.folly-farm.co.uk/webcams/barn-webcam/>
- This [Farm Animal 'What Am I?' Interactive PowerPoint](#) is an interactive way to learn about farm animals.
- You could use this theme to introduce learning about mothers and their young. Children could then use their knowledge to complete this [Mothers and Their Young Matching Activity](#).

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- Have a selection of child-friendly ICT equipment available for children to record themselves retelling the story.
- Use a paint/drawing program or app e.g. 'draw and tell' for children to draw pictures of the characters from the story and then record their voices.
- Explore how an egg changes when cooked.
- Explore what happens to an egg when left in vinegar for 3 days.

Developing Independence.

It is very important for your child's development that they begin to complete tasks independently.

Start small and make sure that you have plenty of time so that you and your child don't feel rushed. Here are some ideas of tasks that your child can complete independently whilst at home. Choose one to focus on each day:

- Tidying up their toys – try putting some of your favourite music on while you do it. Here's the song we use during tidy up time at nursery.

<https://safeYouTube.net/w/xPXD>

- Create a fruit snack area. Encourage children to help wash and prepare the fruit for you to eat. Pouring their own drink.
- Getting dressed by themselves in the mornings or undressed in the evening. Find a designated place to put clothes when finished.
- Set the table and clear dishes away.
- Ask an adult how you can help for 10 minutes. Or set a timer and find something to clean, wipe, or put away until the alarm sounds.
- Choose their own activity from the suggestions above.