



Joint Authority Support for Children, Families and Schools

Explorers Vision Group

Programme Term 1 September 2019

Explorers Vision Group takes place on a Tuesday morning at the Elmfield House, BS10 6AY. You are welcome to arrive from 10.15 onwards, with the session beginning at 10.30.

There will be a snack time for children at 11.40.

Over the year we will focus on a range of skills which will support children with a vision impairment with their learning and development. Term 1 will focus on :

Self-Identity

Young children as they learn about the world around them, are also learning about their own selves and how their actions have an effect on their world. They are also learning about how other people can impact on them – e.g. by playing with them, talking to them, helping them to move around. It is important that children with a vision impairment are supported to understand the world around them – starting with themselves, their body what their body can do, the people close to them and their favourite things- likes and dislikes. This all helps children with a vision impairment to develop ‘their interpersonal and ecological self’. (Perez and Conti-Ramsden 2012 p43).

Session 1 10th September- My Holiday/Favourite Toy

Hello song, exploration of areas, messy play, mark making, tactile books, sensory room. Snack time . Please bring anything sensory which reminds you of your holiday time – could be a favourite shell from the beach, a favourite teddy...

Session 2 September 17th – All About Me! My Favourite Things...

Continuing the theme of developing your child’s sense of self – talk to them about their likes and dislikes. Bring in any favourite things to share at circle time- blanket, teddy, baby. **We will send you home with recordable buttons to record family voices – don’t forget to bring them back!**

Harvest Activities will be available – including Hedgehog bread making!

Session 3 September 24th- All About Me! My Family ...

We will read ‘Titch’ by Pat Hutchins – a story about a boy and his family with sensory elements added ! We will listen to the recordings of our families together. There will be activities available to help children think about their family.



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Session 4 October 1st - All About Me ! My Body ...

We will sing body part songs and play action games to get us all moving our bodies! We will explore different ways of moving – fast, slow, up and down. We will use music and a range of equipment have fun with movement. We are hoping to run a session with Gympanzees – to be confirmed.

Session 5 October 8th - All About Me ! My Senses ...and Autumn

We will read *The Very Helpful Hedgehog* by Rosie Wellesley as a sensory story. We will sing *Here we Go Round the Mulberry Bush*. Sensory activities will be available for children to explore.

Session 6 October 15th - Seasonal: Autumn

We will go on an Autumn walk in the outdoor space, collecting leaves and talking about the sounds and smells. **Continue the story of *The Very Helpful Hedgehog*.**

Session 7 October 22nd - Seasonal : Autumn

We will have some Autumnal games available for this session – think Pumpkins, lights and leaves ! We will also be celebrating Diwali.

We will finish our first term with a shared lunch.

Please bring some lunch for you and your child if you would like to join us. Teas and coffees will be provided.

Overview of the Year

This year we will explore the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Learning areas and demonstrate the adaptations to learning that can be made for children with a Vision Impairment.

All nursery's and Reception classes in school follow the EYFS and it is important for us to think about how children with a vision impairment learn across all areas.

The Developmental Journal for Babies and Young Children with a Vision impairment is a useful guide to development and will be available to look at in the session.

Term 1 – The 'Ecological Self' – All About Me (EYFS: Personal Social and Emotional Development)

Term 2 –: Communication and Language and Literacy



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Term 3 – Physical Development

Term 4 – Maths

Term 5 – Understanding the World

Term 6 – Expressive Arts and Design

Guest Speakers -To be confirmed throughout the year.

Seasonal Activities will run alongside sessions throughout the year.

Sensory Support Service – Louise Stewart – Teacher of the Visually Impaired for Vision Support
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