



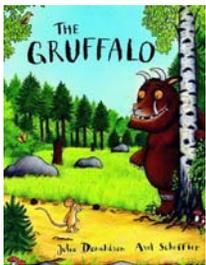
PUTTING THE FUN BACK
INTO LEARNING!

January 2016

Dear Parents,

The KG2 team hope you have had a lovely holiday with your family. It is a new term and we look forward to the progress the children will show over this time. During January a parents evening will be held to share progress on the targets set in November and set new targets for your child where appropriate. We look forward to seeing you during these evenings on Monday 25th January and Tuesday 26th January between 4:30pm and 7:00pm. Please return the reply slip with your preferred timings and an appointment will be allocated to you.

English



In English, we will be studying 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson.

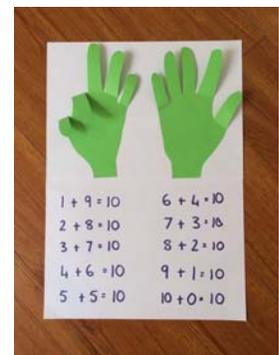
We will be focusing on identifying the main characters within the story and labelling their features. The children will be looking at the structure of the story and sequencing it. Developing their skills from term 1 they will be changing parts of the story to their own version. Please encourage the children to retell you the story over the next few weeks and to talk to you about the characters.

Maths

In Maths this month, we will be looking at addition and subtraction. These key skills are essential for developing fluency in mathematics. The children will be focusing on 1 more and 1 less and counting in tens. These skills can be practiced easily at home through various counting activities such as counting steps and counting when climbing up stairs. You could even ask questions such as: if I have 3 grapes and you have one more than me, how many do you have? Change the counting to counting in 10's and for a challenge try starting at different numbers or counting backwards.

We will also be focusing on adding 3 numbers together and developing understanding of number bonds, investigating number bonds to 9 and 8 for example. Number bonds to 10 is a key aspect which can be played as a game using fingers. Show a set number of fingers and ask how many more are needed to make 10. Take it in turns and try using a timer to increase speed and accuracy.

Doubling of numbers will be another area we will focus on. Again fingers are very useful for doubling numbers to 5 but this can be extended further using 2 people for doubling to 10. Show a set of fingers and ask for the doubled number.



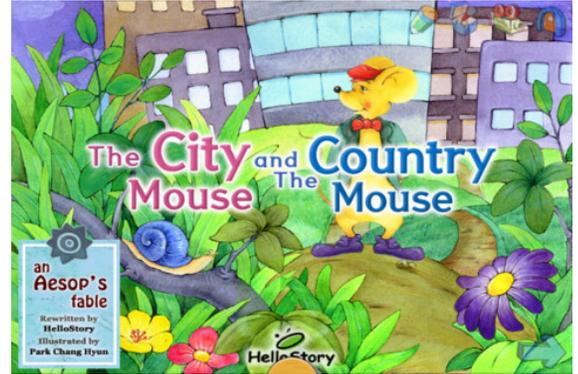
Science

For the next couple of weeks we will be continuing to develop our understanding of different types of animals. We will be looking at identifying and naming common animals including birds, fish and mammals, amphibians and reptiles. When talking about animals at home please help your child to identify the type of animal it is.

Topic

During January the children will be focusing on a Geography topic. They will be identifying the different land forms including forest, desert, jungle and tundra. Leading on from this they will be identifying the features of these different land forms and how they are different.

Using the story 'The City Mouse and the Country Mouse' based on one of Aesop's fables the children will identify the differences between city and country and the features of each. They will also consider which they prefer and why.



Websites - Below are some useful websites which you can use at home. There are lots of games which you could play together with your child, to consolidate our Maths and English learning.

Phonics/ English

<http://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> -Click on phase 2 or phase 3 for more challenge

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/literacy/phonics/play/>

Maths

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/5-7-years/counting>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

<http://www.ictgames.com/numberFacts.htm>

Phonics

Within KG2 the children are now streamed into different phonics groups where they will be taught with children of similar ability. This will ensure focused teaching for each group specific to their needs.

Homework

Homework is sent home on a Sunday and needs to be returned by Wednesday. The children will receive homework for phonics, maths and topic.

Stationery packs for term 2 can be purchased from the store from next week. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform by checking this link to our uniform section on our website. <http://www.albasmaschool.ae/pages/news/school-uniform>

Contact details for teachers:

Please find below the contact details for all teachers within Grade 1.

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Many thanks for your support. The KG2 team.