Personal Social and Emotional Development

Cultural Capital

Following school rules, understanding right from wrong. Socialising with peers irrespective of ethnic differences through play and partner work.

Hide a dinosaur egg in the classroom. Share a letter with the class from a mother dinosaur who has lost her egg. Discuss with the children how the mother must feel and how they can care for the egg.

Share with the children that some dinosaurs lived in herds. Discuss what a herd is. Allow the children to draw and say who is in their 'herd' and what makes them special.

Share some pictures of dinosaurs with the children, for example a tyrannosaurus rex, a triceratops and a diplodocus. Share some facts about these dinosaurs with the children about how they lived and what they ate. Pose the question: 'Are some dinosaurs good? Are some dinosaurs bad? Or neither?' Allow the children to discuss their thoughts and opinions on the question. Record their responses and record them to display on the working wall.

Characteristics of Effective Learning

Playing & Exploring

Respond to new experiences that you bring to their attention.

Active learning

Begin to correct their mistakes themselves. For example, instead of using increasing force to push a puzzle piece into the slot, they try another piece to see if it will fit.

Creating & thinking critically

Take part in simple pretend play.

Know more, so feel confident about coming up with their own ideas.

Communication and Language

Set up a dinosaur role-play in the classroom. Provide dinosaur masks and soft toys. Encourage the children to introduce a narrative in their play, ensuring that children are listening to their peers and including their ideas in play.

After exploring some different types of dinosaurs, play the speaking game: 'If I was a dinosaur for the day...' Allow the children to finish the sentence, say which dinosaur they would like to be and why.

Play the game 'Dinosaur in the jungle' with the children to support their listening and understanding skills. Start with the children walking through the jungle and encourage them to move around the room. Shout out instructions for the children for them to follow, for example: stretch like a diplodocus to reach the treetops, fly like a pterodactyl, stomp like a t-rex.

Physical Development

Create some dinosaur stretches with the children. Encourage the children to stretch their necks and arms high like a diplodocus, stretch their arms wide like the wings of a pterodactyl, kneel with their hands flat on the floor and stretch out their backs showing off their stegosaurus spines. In the water tray, create a dinosaur swamp. Provide some fine motor tweezers and small dinosaurs in the water. Encourage the children to save the dinosaurs from the swamp using their tweezers.

In the malleable area, provide green playdough alongside pasta, sticks and stones. Allow children to create their own dinosaurs using the playdough and encourage them to add detail to their model using the natural materials.

Literacy

Class reads

After finding a dinosaur egg in the classroom (see Personal, Social and Emotional Development), write a class letter to the mother dinosaur explaining that the class have the egg and they will care for it while mother dinosaur comes to get it. Provide two dinosaur soft toys or cut outs and have three pictures of different settings. Share these characters and settings one at a time to the children and as a class create your own dinosaur adventure story.

On dinosaur footprints, write decodable clues which lead to a dinosaur soft toy. Support the children to read the clues to find the dinosaur. Encourage children to write to minibeasts to invite them to visit their minibeast hotel

Class stories T-Rex on Tour

What the Dinosaurs did Last Night

T-Veg The Dinosaur Expert Brontorina

The Enormous Egg If I had a Dinosaur

The Dinosaur that pooped...



Dinosaur Rocks Spring 1



Expressive Arts and Design

Use recyclable materials to create a nest for a lost dinosaur egg.

Provide instruments for the children to explore what sounds the different dinosaurs might make as they travel through the jungle.

Use salt dough to create models of dinosaur footprints. Support the children to paint and decorate them once dry.

On a sunny day, provide a roll of paper or wallpaper in the outside area. Stand up some toy dinosaurs along the paper and observe the shadows they make Encourage the children to draw round the shadows of the dinosaurs to create shadow dinosaur pictures.

Understanding the World

As a class, choose a dinosaur to find some more information on. Use the computer and any nonfiction books in your classroom to create a class 'Dino Facts' poster to display.

Hide some pictures of fossils for the children to investigate with magnifying glasses. Discuss with the children about what these could be and how they relate to dinosaurs.

Share with the children what the world looked like during the Jurassic era. Allow the children time to discuss and explore what is similar and what is different.

Learn about what the words 'carnivore' and 'herbivore' mean. Sort dinosaur pictures into carnivores and herbivores.

Mathematics

Collect some leaves and flowers as well as two dinosaur cut-outs or soft toys. Challenge the children to share the leaves equally between the two dinosaurs.

Using chalks, draw dinosaur footprints in a number line. Provide children with a beanbag and challenge them to jump on from and back from the number the beanbag lands on.

Using toy eggs as dinosaur eggs, challenge children to combine amounts and say the total.

Provide the children with dinosaur footprints to use to measure items and objects in and out of the classroom.