

Play & Learning Newsletter

25th - 27th November 2020

Wonder words to use with your child:

Accident, leaping, tickets

A very short week but filled with lots of opportunities for learning through play! We continued with our nursery rhyme focus this week, using the rhymes we had shared in our videos on Facebook. This actually worked really well as lots of the children related what they had done at home after watching the videos to the activities at pre-school.

The Rock Pool area was filled with large soft foam blocks and five cheeky monkeys, with the challenge being to make a bed for the monkeys to jump on. We had lots of cheeky pre-school children monkeys jumping on the beds which were constructed as well; lots of physical play linked to counting which is always motivating for little children.

A roof building challenge was set in the builder's tray, with Old MacDonald's farm suffering from a damaged barn roof. How could we keep the animals warm and dry? This has really stretched the children's problem-solving skills and also provoked some great collaborative work and discussions between friends.

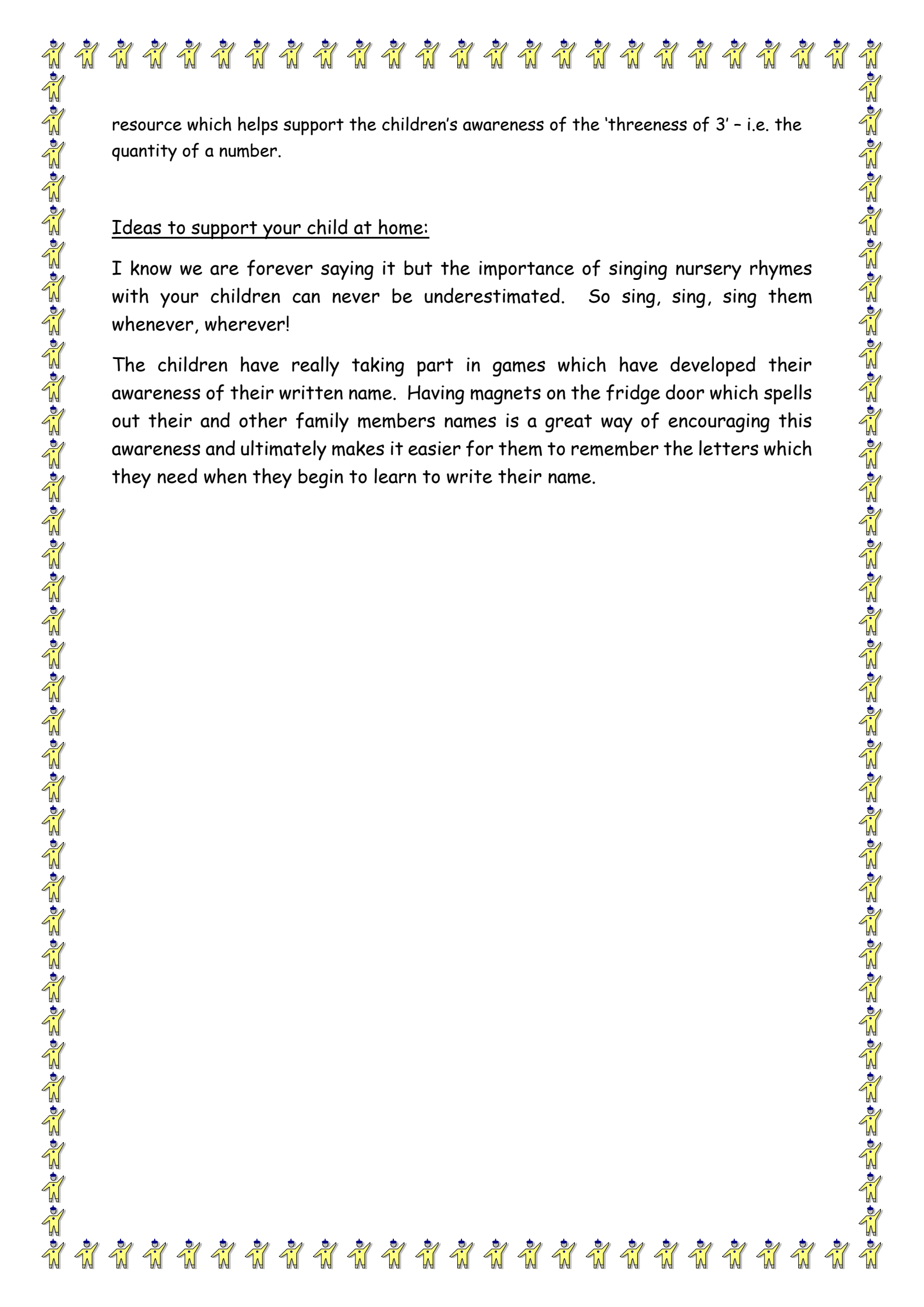
We have had fresh playdough out everyday (much to the children's delight) with 10 little frogs to make lily pads for. Children being children though - the frogs have spent most of their time cocooned inside big balls of playdough, with the children being fascinated by seeing how many they could fit inside a ball. Lots of counting practice still - just not the way we had planned it (as so frequently happens at pre-school! 😊).

'Miss Polly had a Dolly' doctors role play in the home corner and 'Wheels on the Bus' fun with boxes and large wooden blocks were also experiences which inspired super role play among groups of children. Lots of children very happy to be back with friends again!



Sounds and Letters/language focus:

Our nursery rhyme focus has continued to support the children's awareness of rhyme and rhythm, so our afternoon group time sessions have focused on number this week with lots of games being played with the 'numicon shapes' a great mathematical



resource which helps support the children's awareness of the 'threeness of 3' - i.e. the quantity of a number.

Ideas to support your child at home:

I know we are forever saying it but the importance of singing nursery rhymes with your children can never be underestimated. So sing, sing, sing them whenever, wherever!

The children have really taking part in games which have developed their awareness of their written name. Having magnets on the fridge door which spells out their and other family members names is a great way of encouraging this awareness and ultimately makes it easier for them to remember the letters which they need when they begin to learn to write their name.