

Sky Class ~ Autumn 2009 Topic 1

This is my life!

Rationale

By sharing photographs of ourselves as babies or toddlers, the children will produce questions to investigate the many changes that they have experienced in their lives so far. They will then select the most appropriate medium for recording their findings, based upon where their research leads them. During the 'This is my life' topic, children will develop their historical knowledge of themselves. In addition, they will explore how their bodies work and begin to consider the similarities and differences between other people.

The children will begin to work collaboratively to research and communicate their ideas, through the mediums of Science, ICT, History, Art and Design and Technology. We will consider how best to record our findings so that our results are clearly presented to interest and engage our reader. The topic will culminate in a completed book about them which will be shared with each other and of course, home.

Complementing our topic theme, in Literacy pupils will be exploring stories that are based in familiar settings. We will look at how settings are created and explore story mapping techniques before using our knowledge to create our own tale using a typical family pet as its central character. To ensure that our writing is clearly signposted, we will revise and extend punctuation knowledge to include question marks. We will also extend our sentences to help our writing flow with connectives. Children will build upon their reading skills via shared and guided reading, undertaking regular comprehension activities.

How can you help at home?

You might like to share a photograph album with your child. Talk to your child about your family members – share your family tree history. Are your Roots Island based?
Please send into school a baby photo for our competition (for Thursday 10th September).
Please could you complete the 'You as a baby' information sheet for your child to use in their book.

Talk to your child about how their bodies and speech are developing.

Share with your child information about their earliest likes and dislikes etc.

Does anyone have a baby or toddler in the family that could visit our class, so we could talk about how babies grow and develop?

As Literacy lessons will be immersed in stories using familiar settings, you might like to enjoy sharing anecdotes about events in your family that have occurred in your home or local area. You may also enjoy sharing tales with your child using stories based in schools, home or even farms. I hope to enjoy sharing Roald Dahl stories with the class as a class reader, since he often used familiar settings in an unexpected way and Roald Dahl day is celebrated during September.

Key Skills

Enquiry: forming questions to research; using multimedia to find out information

Communication (including ICT): recording ideas clearly and neatly; discussion with peers and adults

Working with others