



# Moorside Community Primary Academy - Theme Overview

Year: Pod Term: November/December  
Theme: Christmas and traditional tales

## Key Learning

1	L	Repeats words/phrases from familiar stories.
2	L	Fills in the missing word or phrase in a known rhyme, story or game, e.g. 'Humpty Dumpty sat on a ...'.
3	CL	Learns new words rapidly and is able to use them when communicating.
4	PD	Beginning to use three finger (tripod grip) to hold writing tools
5	CL	Understands 'who'/'what', 'where' in simple questions
6	M	Notices simple shapes within the environment
7	PSE	Shows understanding and co operates with some boundaries and routines
8	UTW	In pretend play imitates actions from events with their own family and from their cultural background.
9	EAD	Joins in with favourite songs and rhymes.
10	EAD	Shows an interest in the way musical instruments sound.
11	PSE	Interested in others play and starting to join in.

## Key People/Places/Facts

1	Father Christmas	
2	Family	
3	Big bad Wolf	
4	Three little pigs	
5	Goldilocks	
6	Three Bears	
7	Gingerbread man	
8	Rudolf	
9	Elves	
10		

## Big Questions

1	How did the bears feel?	
2	What sounds can you hear?	
3	What did the wolf say?	
4	What happens at Christmas?	
5	Can you build a house?	

## Vocabulary

Christmas	Bonfire
Bang	Fire
Huff	Puff
Bear	Pigs
Gingerbread man	Crackle
Pop	Bricks
Sticks	Straw
Porridge	Father Christmas
Chair	Bed
Reindeer	Sleigh
Bells	Chimney

## Communication and Language

There will be a strong focus on vocabulary this half term pushing for the children to learn new words rapidly whilst communicating. We will provide the children with lots of opportunities to talk in small groups, such as nurture groups, looking at picture books and flash cards allowing their speech to develop.

We will also encourage the children to listen to jolly phonics sounds and circle times and encourage them to join in and repeat phase one phonics sounds.

We will continue to learn new Makaton signs each week with the children, focusing on one sign each week.

## Expressive Arts and Creativity

Children will be provided with lots of different instruments to explore by tapping, shaking and banging, allowing them to listen to the different ways musical instruments sound. They will also be encouraged to join with songs and rhymes as we practice songs to sing for our Christmas nativity. Imaginative play will be encouraged following on from our traditional tales eg 'The three little pigs', building houses and looking at the characters in the story sacks.

## Physical Development

Children will be provided with lots of mark making opportunities encouraging them to hold pencils using a tripod grip to make marks. Children will also be encouraged to dress independently putting on their own coats and aprons. Also continuing to praise and encourage children self care whilst toilet training.

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## Understand the World

Children can explore the role play area investigating props, using their imagination through play, following on from stories read to the children each week. We will talk to the children about what happens at Christmas and how different countries and religions celebrate Christmas differently.

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

This half term staff will encourage new starters to settle in building self-confidence and independence. The children will be encouraged to use 'self registration' in the mornings to help with independence. Children will be reminded of our 'golden rules' on a daily basis.

Adults to continuously praise children during continuous provision to promote positive behaviour rather than correct negative.

Whilst reading traditional tales this term children will be encouraged to talk about how the characters may be feeling.

## Literacy

This topic will provide a strong focus on traditional tales looking at the following stories, 'The three little pigs, Goldilocks and the three bears and the Gingerbread man'. We will read the story with the children encouraging them to join in with repeated words or phrases and fill in missing words. We will learn about the characters in the story and encourage the children to ask questions.

The class will continue with phase one phonics. Higher achievers will begin to learn letter sounds through jolly phonics and flash cards. Middle and younger children will continue to develop listening skills joining in with songs at circle time.

## Mathematics

We will continue to encourage the children to recognise shapes, colours and numbers within the environment. We will also focus on counting in sequence to ten with the use of different objects, books and songs. The children in the higher group will concentrate on counting in sequence from ten and beyond as well as recognising numerals 1 to 10.

Many opportunities for mathematical development will be provided in continuous provision and the outdoor environment, this will be assessed on a daily basis.

