

## Your Children's Topic Work

Typically we spend several weeks looking at a particular topic with the children in class. We use presentations on the interactive whiteboard to introduce the children to the ideas and vocabulary involved. They also do shorter topics related to seasonal celebrations, such as Chinese New Year or Valentine's Day. Each term we usually also spend a week looking at a story in depth.



We do a variety of activities with the children to expose them to different experiences. There are certain activities which we tend to repeat throughout the different topics to develop the specific areas and skills we know they will need in the future. Using plasticene, with mats and tasks related to the topics, helps to develop strength and control in their fingers. For the same reason we regularly do topic colouring sheets to reinforce the vocabulary and to improve their pencil grip and control. To aid their precision in this area we also do trace sheets, where the children use pencils to follow dots in pictures related to the topic. Counting activities are another regular feature and we also concentrate on cutting activities with scissors.



We do many art and craft activities with the children individually and in small groups. This gives them the opportunity to interact with us about the task, by doing an activity related to the topic. We can practise vocabulary throughout and also give them a genuine context to communicate with us.



## Topics this month

This month we have covered some short topics, to relate our learning to special celebrations in the world. This month we have learnt about **Chinese New Year** and **Valentine's Day**.



We also finished our **We're Going on bear Hunt** topic at the beginning of the month, a book which all of the children really enjoyed. They had lots of fun making bear binoculars, bear maps and going on their own bear hunt!



We are now starting our new topic about **The Farm**, which we will continue with for a few weeks. We will reinforce this learning next term when we visit the farm as a class.