BUMBLEBEE NURSERY

News Story – Autumn Stay and Play

Babies



Our baby room Stay and Play session was a busy, exciting and enjoyable morning, with science as our focus. It was lovely to see the babies, parents and staff engaging and participating in activities both indoors and outdoors.

The babies enjoyed exploring an exciting volcano experiment using bicarbonate of soda and vinegar, watching as the mixture fizzed and bubbled. We also explored foil painting, using different colours and paint brushes to discover how colours mix together to create new ones, encouraging curiosity, creativity and early scientific exploration.



Other activities included using pipettes and pouring jugs to mix different coloured liquids, helping to develop hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills. Our water area featured five little ducks, boats and lily pads in blue-coloured water, where the babies enjoyed splashing, pouring and exploring.



In the book corner, the children enjoyed listening to Dear Zoo and discovering hidden animal props beneath colourful cloths. They had fun finding the animals and imitating their sounds and movements.



Outdoors, we created an under-the-sea sensory tray using sand, blue cornflour, sharks, sea creatures, boats and rocks. The babies loved exploring the different textures and creating their own little sea adventures, supporting their sensory development and curiosity about the world around them.

To finish our session, parents, babies and staff came together for circle time for nursery rhymes, including the babies' favourite, Wheels on the Bus.

Throughout the morning, the babies were encouraged to explore, investigate and experiment through hands-on experiences. It was wonderful to share such a lovely morning of learning and fun with our families!

Toddlers

We had a lovely Stay and Play session, where parents came along to spend some special time playing and exploring alongside their children. It was wonderful to see everyone joining in with the activities, supporting the children's learning, and enjoying quality time together.





There were lots of exciting activities for the children to explore. The watercolour mixing activity the children experimented with colours and enjoyed seeing what happened when different colours were mixed together. They also had fun tracing numbers using aeroplanes, helping to develop their early number recognition and fine motor skills. In the sand area, children enjoyed scooping and pouring sand into pots and pans, making animal-shaped sand moulds and creating their own sandcastles. The water tray was another popular activity, with colourful balls for the children to explore, move and splash around.

Our reading corner provided a lovely quiet space for children and parents to share stories, with our Colour Monster books and colourful monster spoons to bring the stories to life. In the home corner, children enjoyed having a teddy bear picnic, using their imaginations and engaging in lovely pretend play.







Outside, there was plenty more to enjoy! The children explored our outdoor reading den, had fun riding the bikes and got creative in the mud kitchen, pretending to cook with the vegetables laid out in the mud kitchen. They also enjoyed building tall towers using magnetic shapes, experimenting with balancing, shapes and construction.

It was a fantastic session filled with fun, exploration and wonderful opportunities for learning through play.

Pre-School

On Friday, parents and carers joined us for a Science-themed Stay and Play session, sharing hands-on discoveries and special moments with their children.

Our little scientists explored:





Phonics and Mark Making: Children used paintbrushes in sand to practise letters and names.





Outdoor Fizzy Science: Pipettes of coloured vinegar on bicarbonate of soda created more colourful bubbling discoveries.

Thank you to all the parents and carers who joined us! We loved learning and making memories together and look forward to more nursery adventures.

Exploding Planets: Adding vinegar to colourful bicarbonate-of-soda planets created fizzing, bubbling reactions.

Playdough and Pasta Threading: Pasta, straws and playdough helped children practise counting and coordination.





The Gruffalo: Sensory bottles and "What's in the Box?" inspired questions, predictions and storytelling.

