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**Topic Plan Ideas** – **Summer**

This pack contains some activity ideas for the ‘Summer’ topic as well as some blank forms for you to note down your own ideas.

Staring at a blank page when planning can be difficult so we hope that even if you don’t end up using our exact suggestions, they will be a spark of inspiration for your own great ideas when planning for your children.

(The different sheets are outlined below so you can decide which sheets you need to print).

Ideas sheet (Colour) – p2

Ideas sheet (BW) – p3

Blank ideas headings sheet (Colour) – p4

Blank ideas headings sheet (BW) – p5

Completely blank ideas sheet (BW) – p6

Blank Prime Areas of Learning sheet (Colour) – p7

Blank Prime Areas of Learning sheet (BW) – p8

Blank Prime & Specific Areas of Learning sheet (Colour) – p9

Blank Prime & Specific Areas of Learning sheet (BW) – p10

We hope this helps!

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**Summer Ideas**

Fine Motor

Number/Counting

* Hide themed objects around your outdoor area e.g. How many dinosaurs can you find? For older children introduce a checklist/tally element.
* Shells and numbers in the water tray.
* Summer themed pom pom mats (using tweezers).
* Planting seeds (e.g. sunflower).
* Make sun shapes – chalk on pavement, paint, finger tracing, water painting in outdoor area, sand tray.

Tuff Trays

Messy Play

* Mixing sand and water – What happens to it? What does it feel like?
* Water tray – small world sea animals, boats or pirates.

Shape/Pattern/Symmetry

* Summer symmetry – talk about summer themed symmetrical objects e.g. t-shirt, sun shape, crab, butterfly.
* Summer 2D shapes to make summer themed pictures e.g. a boat using semi-circle for main body triangles for sails, etc.

Personal Opinions & Feelings

Measures

* Size ordering e.g. summer clothing – sun hats, sandals.
* Capacity – investigate ‘full, ‘half-full’ and ‘empty’. Then move on to ‘Which containers hold more?’
* Weight – explore how heavy water feels (different container sizes).
* What do you like to do during the summertime? (Discuss different summer activities).
* How does a sunny day make you feel? Is it different from a rainy day?

Health & Self-Care

Nurturing Relationships

* Share with each other what our favourite summertime activities are.
* Create a picnic area – reinforce sharing and turn taking.
* Think about ‘Sun safety’.
* What types of weather do we have in the summer? What clothes should we wear for each?
* Water safety.

Gross Motor

* Practise pouring water in and out of different containers (see also ‘measures’ – capacity box)
* Summer movement role-play e.g. ‘Stretch up tall like a sunflower.’

Investigation

Role-Play

* Ice-cream shop
* Garden centre
* Teddy Bears’ picnic
* Pirate ship
* Aquarium
* Hotel
* Airport
* Zoo
* Make your own boats. What materials should we use? How many passengers can they hold?
* Outdoor ‘Sound Station’.
* Minibeast investigation – Where are they found? What minibeasts did you discover?

Mark making

* Draw pictures, shapes, letters, numbers, names in sand – using chalk on pavement, water using paintbrush in outdoor area.
* Make marks, draw, write about an outing or event e.g. trip to farm, summer fair, event, etc.

Creativity/Art/Design

* Make pictures using natural item loose parts whilst outdoors e.g. shells, twig, daisies.
* Bark rubbing.
* Pictures using coloured sand.
* Footprint and handprint pictures.
* Outdoor observational drawing.

Relevant Books

Phonics/High Freq. Words

* Sound cards or high frequency words buried in sand for children to find.
* Write initial sounds on sea animal water tray toys – children say sound as play with the toy.
* Commotion in the ocean – Giles Andrea.
* Dear Zoo – Rod Campbell.
* Farmyard Hullabaloo – Giles Andrea.
* Sharing a Shell – Julia Donaldson.
* The Snail and the Whale - Julia Donaldson.

Songs/Music/Poems

Alphabet

* Tuff tray of summer themed objects which feature the same sound e.g. ‘s’ tray could have sandals, suncream, sunhat, gla**ss**es, suitcase, etc.

Mindfulness

* Think about your senses on a summer walk.
* Close eyes, sit still. What can you hear?
* Lie-down and look up at the sky. What shapes can you see in the clouds?

Colours

Science Experiments

* ‘Shadows’ – How are they made? How do they change?
* ‘Melting’ e.g. ice cubes, chocolate buttons, ice-cream, butter.
* ‘Float or sink’ – which objects float/sink? Why?
* Fruit slushies – freeze different coloured fruit juices or squashes – put them into a container and see what happens!
* Flower walk – what colour flowers can you see? Take photos and later mix paints to find the same colours.

Optional Home Learning

Vocab & Communication

* Discussing and finding the ‘Signs of Summer’ – various media and outdoor area.
* Summer themed word cards/picture communication.
* Adult describes summer object or activity – child to guess what it is.
* ’30 days of summer’ activity grid.
* Summer bucket list.
* Summer holiday checklist.
* Summer walks – senses, wildlife, colours.

Food

* Design and make your own fruit salad.
* Make summer-themed pictures good enough to eat e.g. boat using fruits.

A yellow ice cream cone

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA picture containing plastic, tool

Description automatically generatedA yellow sun with a smiling face

Description automatically generated with medium confidenceA close-up of a fish

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* Sand – create a small world ‘Beach’ or ‘Desert’.
* Materials to build your own boats.
* Once I caught a fish alive.
* Big ship sails.
* Five little speckled frogs.
* Water sounds e.g. drip, bubble, splash, plop.
* Pirate song.

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Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Physical Development

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Physical Development

Literacy

Mathematics

Expressive arts and design

Understanding the world

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