

Communication and Language

Explore and talk about the weather in winter—watching a snowman melt.

What do we need to keep warm in winter?

Winter curiosity cube

Create your own Gruffalo setting and retell the story.

Poetry basket

I can build a snowman

Carrot nose

Let's put on our mittens

Understanding the World

Polar bear investigation—where do they live? How do they keep warm (blubber experiment)

Keeping warm in winter. What do we need? How do we keep warm?

Freezing and melting, rescue Olaf and his friends what would make the ice melt.

Winter walk observations of trees.

What do animals do in winter? How can we take care of them?

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Glove activity, practise putting on gloves, can you beat the timer?

Talk through emotions in the Gruffalo story—frightened, brave, curious, shocked, afraid can the children show these feelings.

Who do you love and why?

What makes someone special?

Noah's Ark—being sorry and keeping promises

Literacy

Texts and Books:

The Gruffalo

The Gruffalo's child

One Snowy Night

The Tiger Who Came to Tea

The Great Race (How Chinese New Year began)

Writing

Valentines day cards

What can you see in winter writing?

Freezing letters/ tricky words.

Polar bear labelling activity.

Writing in the snow



Reception Unit

Winter

Winter, Chinese New Year, Valentines day,

Expressive Arts and Design

Charcoal pictures of the trees in winter.

Tinfoil painting using white paint and cotton buds

Painting snow and ice using spray bottles and watered down paint.

Winter themed music—can the children create winter sounds with musical instruments.

Making Chinese lanterns.

Chinese writing

Physical Development

Sugar cubes and tweezers, can you build an igloo?

Snowman aiming and throwing game— Throw snowballs to get points can they get them in the snowman's mouth.

Sticker snowflake pattern activity / snowflake fine motor activity

Making playdough Gruffalo faces.

Mathematics

Matching numeral to quantity ice cubes and number cards.

Who has more or fewer snowflake picture cards.

Ordering playdough snowballs big, medium, small.

Explore different sized footprints—matching the footprints—who do they belong to? (The Gruffalo) Measuring the footprints using cubes. How many cubes long?

How many are hiding—bears in the igloo.

Subitising snowflake cards, more, fewer and equal groups