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All about me and us

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Introducing oneself and talking about oneself. Sharing likes and dislikes.

Talking about one's family and culture including pets.

Discussing classroom routines and procedures.

Listening to other student's points of view and being open to diversity in learning environments.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

name, age, likes, dislikes, favourite, hobby, family, family members (learning words such as mother, father, sister, brother, uncle, aunt), pets, feelings, rules, routines, weekdays, months

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Children make a paper doll that represents them as a person. They cut out a person template from card stock and draw a face on it. Hair is cut from yarn and clothes are designed from fabric scraps.

Colour Monsters to show how children feel about starting school.

Creating classroom rules after taking suggestions from everyone. The rules are posted in the classroom and each child signs them.



Traffic safety, colours and shapes

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Discussing safety rules at preschool and school environment.

Talking about traffic safety and behaving in a responsible and safe way in traffic.

Learning to name key terminology of traffic including modes of transportation.

Learning and being able to name colours and basic shapes.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

bicycle, pedestrian, car, bus, underground/metro, traffic lights, zebra crossing, left, right, circle, square, rectangle, triangle, names of various colours

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Hiding reflectors in the classroom or outside in the morning when it's still dark and looking for them with the help of flashlights.

A walk in the school surroundings focusing on pedestrian safety.

Colouring and cutting traffic lights and traffic signs.

The paper doll that represents children as a person (done in the beginning of the year) is dressed up in a reflective vest.

Always follow the traffic rules and be alert!



SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

Watch out! On the road by Claire Llewellyn

Brown bear, brown bear, what do you see?
by Bill Martin, Jr.

Windows, rings, & grapes - A look at different shapes by Brian Cleary

The crayons' book of colors by Drew Daywalt

Healthy habits and first aid

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Discussing the importance of nutrition, exercise, sleep and limiting screentime for one's health. For example: talking about different types of food, following instructions in physical education.

Learning simple first aid skills.

Taking part in a role play (child's toy as a patient).

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

foods (learning names of various types of foods), exercise and movement (learning words such as jump, skip, run, crawl, throw), screentime, television, tablet, phone, games, apps, rules, hospital, doctor, nurse, body parts

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Organising a teddy bear hospital.

Setting up a play hospital.

Crafting a healthy meal on a playdough plate (laminated template).

Songs: "The more we get together", "Head, shoulders, knees and toes" and "The skeleton dance".



Children's rights

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Learning what are children's rights and how you can support them.

Learning that every child has rights.

Being able to give some examples of children's rights.

I have the right to go to preschool!



name, safety, clean, food, water, sleep, home, religion, health, parents, adult, child, school, learning, culture



IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Needs or wants: You will need a selection of pictures of various items such as house, food, toys, telephone, family, television etc and you will also need a picture of a child, or a doll. In this activity the children will choose for example 5 or 6 things from the pictures that they want or need. Then they are told that the only things they will have, are the things they choose, for example if they choose television instead of water, that means they have no water at all. They can now still do changes to the original choices. The idea is to learn to distinguish between what one wants and what one really needs to be able to live a good life.

In this activity you will ask the children to stand on a line going from one side of the classroom to the other. The children are taking their place on the line depending on how important the topic discussed is to them. One end of the line means "not important at all", middle of the line means "somewhat important" and the other end means "very important". For example: You say home and they will find a place on the line showing how important home is to them. Then you will ask them to explain why they are standing where they are.

SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

The Gruffalo

by Julia Donaldson

What should Danny do?

by Ganit & Adir Levy

Welcome to our world

by Harriet Lynas and Moira Butterfield

Every child a song

by Nicola Davies and Marc Martin

Malala's magic pencil

by Kerascoët and Malala Yousafzai

Me as a little scientist

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Learning how to do a scientific experiment and taking part in doing practical scientific experiments.

Learning how to predict and explain the expected outcome of a scientific experiment, hypothesis.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

scientist, test/experiment, measure, magnify, predict, observe, sort, record, explain, collaborate, compare, test, result, sink, float, snow, water, soil, plant, seed, sunlight

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Science experiments: making a hypothesis of the result, doing the actual test, and finally documenting the results.

Does an object sink or float in water? Testing with various objects.

What happens to snow when you bring it inside? Which containers with snow melt the quickest, when you place them near a radiator, next to a window or in warm water, for example. What happens to the amount of snow as it melts?

Planting a seed and documenting how the plant grows (e.g. by drawing)



SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

Water is water: a book about the water cycle by Miranda Paul

Who sank the boat by Pamela Allen

It starts with a seed by Laura Knowles

Social skills and friendship

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Developing collaboration skills such as listening and respecting others, sharing, being patient and learning empathy.

Learning how to work in a group and in different pairs.

Helping children to understand that kind and cooperative behaviour helps to create and maintain friendships.

Supporting emotional selfawareness by learning how to identify and understand one's own emotions. Be the reason someone smiles today.



ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

friendship, friendliness, kindness, respecting, listening, sharing, caring, emotions, feelings, empathy, patience

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Playing in different group formations and in pairs, sometimes chosen by teacher, sometimes by children themselves and sometimes by chance.

Celebrating Valentine's day as a Friendship day.

All children make a big cardboard heart for themselves and leave it on the table. Everybody then walks around the room and writes or draws something nice to everyone's heart.

SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

The rainbow fish by Marcus Pfister

Have you filled a bucket today?: A guide to daily happiness for kids by Carol McCloud

Pip and Egg by Alex Latimer

My mouth is a volcano by Julia Cook

Talk and work it out by Cheri J. Meiners

Most people by Michael Leannah

The invisible boy by Patrice Barton

Be kind by Pat Zietlow Miller

Jake the growling dog by Samantha Shannon

Personal strengths and talents

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Learning about various types of strengths and understanding that we are all special and good at something.

Practising performing in front of others.

Practising how to give encouraging feedback to others.

Learning how to evaluate own behaviour and strengths.

I know I can do this!



ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

strength, talent, skill, confidence, different, same, to perform, evaluate, practise, self-evaluate, feedback

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Organising a talent show.

On toy days, presenting one own toy: "show and tell".

Including classroom helpers in the morning routines such as doing the calendar together with the teacher or teaching assistant.

Having an art exhibition: Presenting one's own artwork for the class.

SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

Giraffes can't dance by Giles Andreae

I can be anything! Don't tell me I can't by Diane Dillon

Tom's special talent by Kate Gaynor

The most magnificent thing by Ashley Spires

Sustainable lifestyle

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Discussing how children can make more sustainable choices.

Discussing how things can be recycled and re-used.

Learning which waste belongs to which bin.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

recycling, cardboard, paper, plastic, glass, metal, bio waste, food waste, mixed waste, hazardous waste, protect, nature, animals, planet, sustainable

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Creating a bio waste bag of a newspaper.

Organising a toy exchange day.

Creating or building art from recycled materials for example making Independence Day "candles" or a desk organiser from empty toilet paper rolls.

I have learned you are never too small to make a difference.



SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

The day the crayons quit by Drew Daywalt

Not your typical dragon by Dan Bar-el

Jabari jumps by Gaia Cornwall

Here we are: Notes for living on planet Earth by Oliver Jeffers

Seasons change - Autumn

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Being able to name the seasons and describe the weather in each season.

Discussing suitable clothing to wear in each season.

Learning about what happens in nature during the Autumn.

Talking about seasonal celebrations such as Halloween, Samhain or Kekri, Father's Day as well as other celebrations depending on children's background.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

September, October, November, seasons, Winter, Spring, Summer, Autumn, temperature, weather, clothes (knowing the names of various types of clothing)

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Crafting an animal, for example a squirrel out of cardboard and gluing fallen leaves on the tail.

Hedgehog project: Finding information about hedgehogs, sewing a hedgehog and building a nest for it from a shoebox and decorating it with material found in the forest.

Leaves are falling, Autumn is calling.

SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

The leaf thief

by Alice Hemming and Nicola Slater

Fletcher and the falling leaves

by Julia Rawlinson

In the garden by Noëlle Smit



Seasons change - Winter

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Learning about what happens in nature during the winter and how the animals and people manage during the winter season.

Wearing appropriate clothing for winter.

Talking about seasonal celebrations such as Christmas, New Year, Valentine's Day and other celebrations depending on children's background.



ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

December, January, February, Winter, snow, snowing, slush, ice, skis, cross-country skiing, ski boots, ski poles, ice skates, snow glider, sled, northern lights

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Melting snow and looking at what is in it through magnifying glass.

Cross country skiing, ice skating, building from snow and sledding.

Making Aurora Borealis art.

Baking gingerbread cookies.

SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

Winter is here by Kevin Henkes

The snowman by Raymond Briggs

Over and under the snow by Kate Messner

The Gruffalo's child by Julia Donaldson

Bella gets her skates on by Ian Whybrow

Seasons change - Spring

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Learning about what happens in nature during the Spring.

Wearing appropriate clothing for Spring.

Talking about seasonal celebrations such as Easter and May 1st (vappu), Mother's Day and other celebrations depending on children's background.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

March, April, May, Spring, rain, bugs, plants, flowers, animals, sunlight, leaves, spring grass

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Making a rain stick instrument out of empty cardboard roll with rice OR a spring drum with two paper plates, stick, yarn and beads.

Painting with bright colours while listening to Vivaldi's Spring.

Drawing a favourite Finnish animal first on paper and then sewing it into a soft toy. Taking pictures of the soft toy animal in its "natural" habitat outside.



Seasons change – Summer

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Learning about what happens in nature during summer and learning about life cycles of different animals and plants.

Wearing appropriate clothing as well as sun protection during summer.

Talking about seasonal celebrations such as end of the year celebration in school and other celebrations depending on children's background.

I'm going to have fun in the sun!



ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

June, July, August, Summer, life cycle, soil, plant, planting, seed, sprout, leaf, flower, sun, watering, dry, wet

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

A trip to the forest to see the signs of summer in nature (e.g. nature bingo).

Planting a sunflower or a pea seed and taking care of it until it has grown. Children get to bring the baby plants home at the end of the school year.

SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

The amazing life cycle of butterflies

by Kay Barnham

The very hungry caterpillar by Eric Carle

How does a seed sprout, Life cycles with the very hungry caterpillar by Eric Carle

How does a tadpole grow, Life cycles with the very hungry caterpillar by Eric Carle

How does an egg hatch, Life cycles with the very hungry caterpillar by Eric Carle

And then comes summer by Tom Brenner

Mathematics Number sense

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Number recognition, at least numbers from 0 to 10

Ordering and sequencing, learning the right order of numbers forwards as well as backwards (number line)

Sorting and comparing numbers

Learning the concepts greater than and less than

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

greater than, less than, equal to, similar, different, group, numbers from 0-10, number line, forwards, backwards, sequence What's the number between 5 and 7?



IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Guess the number I am thinking about: You will need number cards from 0-20 or 0-10. Place the cards in front of the children in correct order. Tell the children that you are thinking about one of the numbers and it is their task to guess which one. After each guess tell the children that the number in your mind is greater than or less than the suggested one. Discuss and turn over the cards with the wrong answers. Continue until they guess the correct number.

Online Math games: www. topmarks.co.uk/maths-games.

Counting songs: "The ants go marching", "One potato, two potato", "One, two, buckle my shoe", "Johnny works with one hammer", "Ten fat sausages", "Five little ducks".

SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

The Boy Who Loved Math... The Improbable Life of Paul Erdos by Deborah Heiligman

When Sophie thinks she can't... by Molly Bang

1, 2, 3 to the Zoo: A counting book by Eric Carle

The crayons' book of numbers by Drew Daywalt

Chicka chicka 1,2,3 by Bill Martin Jr.

Mathematics Measuring and comparing

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Developing the children's ability to estimate, compare and measure objects.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

Length, weight, long (longer, longest), tall, short, big, small, heavy, light, measure, compare, ruler, scale, measuring tape

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Measuring objects inside in the classroom or outside on the yard or in the park/forest with using fingers, palms, feet, little blocks, pieces or yarn etc.

Measuring children's height with yarn and putting the individual yarns to the classroom wall with a pin, in order from shortest to tallest or vice versa.

Choosing objects and estimating how much they weigh. Then measuring the real weight with hands or with a scale. E.g. on Halloween, the measured objects can be different sized pumpkins.

Songs: "Tall and short" and "Is it heavy or light?" by Jack Hartmann.

I'm as tall as a hundred ants in line!



SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

Peg + Cat: The Puddle by Jennifer Oxley and Billy Aronson

How long? by Jessica Gunderson

How tall?By Mark Weakland

Mathematics Concept of time

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Understanding and following daily and weekly routines and sequence of events: What happens in the morning, during the day, in the evening? What happened yesterday, what happens today and what will happen tomorrow?

Naming months and weekdays.

Learning about time (o'clock).

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

before, after, sometimes, often, morning, day, evening, night, today, yesterday, tomorrow, weekdays, months, o'clock



IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

What's the time Mr Wolf -game: One child is Mr Wolf who stands at the opposite end of the playing field from the other players, facing away from them. The players chant "What's the time Mr Wolf?" Mr Wolf will then answer in one of two ways: 1.) With saying a time (e.g. it's 3 o'clock). The children will then take that many steps towards Mr Wolf, counting aloud (one, two, three) OR 2.) With saying "Dinner time!" and then turning around and chasing the other players. If Mr Wolf tags a player, that player becomes a new Mr Wolf.

Making a clock from cardboard.

Sequence cards about daily routines (what time each thing happens).

Songs: "Hickory, dickory dock", "Days of the week song" and "Months of the year song" by The Singing Walrus.

SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

Bats around the clock

by Kathi Appelt

What's the time Mr Wolf?

by Debi Gliori

There was an old lady who swallowed... -series

by Lucille Colandro

Pitter pattern

by Joyce Hesselberth

In the garden

by Noëlle Smit

Twelve hats for Lena: A book of months

by Karen Katz

Mathematics Concept of money

LEARNING GOALS AND CONCEPTS:

Recognising money, coins and banknotes/bills.

Understanding why money is needed and where it comes from.

Comparing different amounts of money: what costs a lot and what costs less?

Learning how to use money in a responsible way and saving.

I'm saving money for a new bicycle.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY:

money, Euro, Cent, coin, banknote/bill, saving, buying, selling, salary, bank, more, less

IDEAS FOR ACTIVITIES:

Making a "piggy bank" to start saving money.

Setting up a play store or a play restaurant and using play money.

Organising a bake sale for the school or for the parents.

Pikku Kakkosen Eskari – application (a lot of Math games for different topics).

SUGGESTED LITERATURE:

One Cent, Two Cents, Old Cent, New Cent: All about money by Bonnie Worth

Lemonade in winter: A book about two kids counting money

by Emily Jenkins

Save it!By Cinders McLeod



WORD MAGIC CARDS

S, T, P, N, C, K, H, R, M, D, G, L, B, J, W, V



S-MAGIC

FUNNY SUNNY LOCK **SOCK** NAIL **SAIL MAD SAD SAND** HAND **RAY** SAY **TIDE SIDE MEAL SEAL** CAT **SAT**

RING SING **BLOW SLOW WINK** SINK BEE **SEA KEY SEA FUN SUN ROPE SOAP** RING SING **ROCK SOCK**



T-MAGIC

ROAD TOAD BOYS TOYS PEN TEN **FABLE TABLE** YELL TELL **FEARS TEARS SAIL TAIL** RENT **TENT MAP TAP** TOOTH **BOOTH**

BEACH TEACH FREE TREE BAG TAG VAN TAN BALL TALL TOWN DOWN CALL TALL SEA **TEA** COFFEE **TOFFEE NIGHT TIGHT**

P-MAGIC



TEN	PEN
SINK	PINK
DOT	POT
WILLOW	PILLOW
DARK	PARK
TOOL	POOL
TEAR	PEAR
CARROT	PARROT
TILE	PILE
TICK	PICK

MET	PET
SAW	PAW
TAN	PAN
BEACH	PEACH
DARK	PARK
DIG	PIG
VET	PET
COOL	POOL
CAN	PAN
SFA	PFA

N-MAGIC <



TAIL	NAIL
PEST	NEST
PAIL	NAIL
PET	NET
RAP	NAP
GO	NO
SAME	NAME
DINE	NINE
MET	NET
DECK	NECK

CAP	NAP
HUT	NUT
VOTE	NOTE
DEAR	NEAR
ROSE	NOSE
RIGHT	NIGHT
BOAT	NOTE
BEST	NEST
GAME	NAME
MAIL	NAIL



C-MAGIC

PAN	CAN
TAP	CAP
PARROT	CARROT
SAT	CAT
FOB	COB
HORN	CORN
LOT	COT
BAKE	CAKE
NOW	COW
BALL	CALL

HOOK	COOI
POOL	COOL
TALL	CALL
TAPE	CAPE
GOAT	COAT
FALL	CALL
VAN	CAN
HAT	CAT
MAN	CAN

KEY

KEY

KEY

KEY

KITE

KING

CAKE



K-MAGIC

PICK	KICK	PEA
BEG	LEG	BEE
LID	KID	TEA
SING	KING	SEA
BITE	KITE	NIGHT
SICK	KICK	RING
FIND	KIND	RAKE

H-MAGIC



SAM	HAM
SAND	HAND
CAT	HAT
PEN	HEN
SIP	HIP
LOG	HOG
MOUSE	HOUSE
MOLE	HOLE
DAY	HAY

POT BUG BAT
BAT
TEN
LAND
MUG
RAT

HOW
HOT
HUG
HAT
HEN
HAND
HUG
HAT

R-MAGIC



BAKE	RAKE
CAT	RAT
HUG	RUG
FACE	RACE
NED	RED
SOCKET	ROCKET
NOSE	ROSE

MUG	RUG
LOCK	ROCK
HEAD	RED
SING	RING
SOCK	ROCK
POCKET	ROCKE"



M-MAGIC

MAD
MAP
MAIL
MOOSE
MOP
MOUSE
MAT
MAY
MOON
MET

BAT	MAT
BUG	MUG
TAIL	MAIL
CAT	MAT
CAN	MAN
FIX	MIX
VAN	MAN
SEAT	MEA
NAIL	MAIL
RAT	MAT



D-MAGIC

WISH	DISH
BARK	DARK
JUST	DUST
NICE	DICE
BUG	DUG
COLLAR	DOLLAR
HAY	DAY

LOCK	DOCK	
HATE	DATE	
HAIRY	DAIRY	
PAY	DAY	
PARK	DARK	
PIG	DIG	
LUCK	DUCK	





GOLD FOLD POT GOT LOOSE **GOOSE GATE** HATE **FAME GAME TAP GAP** LET **GET** SO GO **FOOD GOOD**

LIFT
BOAT
BET
COAT
COLD
LOT
LATE
LIVE
VET

GOLD GOT GATE GIVE GET

GIFT

GET

GOAT

GOAT



L-MAGIC

MAP	LAP
SOCK	LOCK
COT	LOT
BIKE	LIKE
GIVE	LIVE
DUCK	LUCK
SIT	LIT
VOCAL	LOCAL
FAST	LAST
HATE	LATE

PICK	LICK
PAY	LAY
BAKE	LAKE
COOK	LOOK
CAKE	LAKE
CAMP	LAMP
GET	LET
GOT	LOT
FIGHT	LIGHT
ZIP	LIP



F-MAGIC

BRIDGE	FRIDGE
MEET	FEET
DOOR	FOUR
DISH	FISH
RACE	FACE
TALL	FALL
HAIRY	FAIRY
TAN	FAN
BUN	FUN
LACE	FACE

DINE	FINE
BUNNY	FUNNY
BALL	FALL
CAR	FAR
BOX	FOX
JAR	FAR
NINE	FINE
NIGHT	FIGHT
WIN	FIN





J-MAGIC

BUMP JUMP
FAR JAR
WET JET
HAM JAM
JAKE CAKE
POINT JOINT
HAIL JAIL

DEEP JEEP
WADE JADE
FAR JAR
BEANS JEANS
BELLY JELLY
CAR JAR



W-MAGIC

BIN WIN
DISH WISH
TIDE WIDE
SIT WIT
KING WING
PET WET

PIPE WIPE
BEST WEST
BALL WALL
DIG WIG
RING WING
LET WET

