

# Things to do in September

This month, Nursery Ted introduces his own poster packed with fun activities for the children to enjoy. Use the suggested activities below to extend the poster ideas

## Activities to support the Early Years Foundation Stage framework

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Read the comic strip on the poster about Ted's first day at nursery. Why is he looking sad? What makes him happy again? Ask the children to recall times when they have felt worried because they did not know anyone, for example, when starting school or nursery.

Explore the way that the poster is presented with pictures, captions, ideas and games. Invite the children to help you make a 'Welcome' poster for new children at your setting. What could they include to make the children feel at home? Involve everyone in taking photographs, writing captions and suggesting activities.

### Communication and Language and Literacy

Read the poster title with the children and ask them to find the two letter 'i's. Talk about how the dot is represented by an acorn. Provide natural autumn materials, such as twigs, grasses, conkers and acorns, for the children to create letter shapes from.

Discuss the way that Ted's first day at nursery is represented by a comic strip. Look in the children's magazines for similar story strips. Talk about the purpose of speech bubbles and read the ones on the poster. Who is talking? Make up another speech bubble for the last picture in the strip. What do the children think the teddies are saying?

### Mathematics

Can the children guess what the close-up image is? Mount pictures of other items associated with autumn on to card, such as a squirrel, leaf, cornfield or combine harvester. Cut a small square out of the picture and invite the children to guess what the object is by looking at this. Fit the square back in its place to see if they are correct.

Complete the 'Spot the difference' activity using small plastic bears to represent Nursery Ted. Each time the children find something different between the two pictures, put one of the bears along a line. Count them and keep spotting until five differences are identified and five Teds are in the row.

### Understanding the World

Explore the poster and talk about how Ted is celebrating the first day of autumn and harvest festival. Celebrate harvest festival by making the harvest rolls as described on the poster. Encourage the children to notice the changes in the raw and cooked ingredients during cooking. Look on the poster at the image of a hedgehog and talk about



## How to use the poster

Drape a large piece of orange fabric on to a low display board and then over a table, and attach the poster to the fabric on the board. On the table below, sit a large teddy bear to represent Nursery Ted, books, soft toy replicas of creatures associated with autumn, and woven baskets of leaves, autumn fruits and twigs. Encourage parents to explore the display with their children.

its main features. Look at books and websites to find out more about hedgehogs. Find different ways to create hedgehog images, for example, printing them with halved potatoes and small sticks.

## Physical Development

Take the children outdoors to collect a sack of leaves. Make sure that no dogs or cats have fouled the area first. Use the leaves to celebrate the first day of autumn with a parachute leaf bounce, as described on the poster. Have fun throwing leaves in the air, jumping on them and rolling over them. Make clay hedgehogs in a hibernaculum, as described on the poster. Encourage the children to use the same resources for their autumn creative ideas, for example, making leaf prints by pressing leaves into clay.

## Expressive Arts and Design

Look at the colours used on the poster. Talk about the colours of autumn, such as yellow, orange, red and brown. Provide the children with red, yellow and green paint to experiment with mixing autumn colours for their pictures. Read the traditional story of 'The Little Red Hen' before making the harvest rolls recipe on the poster. Encourage the children to try making different shapes with the dough, such as hedgehogs made from balls of dough with spines created by clipping the dough with a pair of scissors.

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