

# SENIOR INFANTS OLGC GNS R 15 &16

Updated April 20, 2020

Dear Parents,

We hope you are all managing well. We are missing the girls and look forward to getting back to school. In the meantime, the following are suggested activities for the next two weeks. Please do not feel under pressure to cover everything. Feel free to pick and choose what is manageable for your home situation.

Please find activities for the following curriculum areas below:

- ☐ PE / movement breaks
- ☐ Aistear (Play activities): Zoo theme Role play.
- ☐ Literacy: Oral language, Reading, Phonics, Sight Words, Comprehension, Writing
- ☐ Maths: 1. Recognising and counting numbers from 0 to 20.
  - 2. Comparing numbers - more than/less than/ equal to.
- ☐ Gaeilge
- ☐ SESE (History/Geography/Science): Dublin Zoo; Tigers; Magnets.
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Music

There are lessons on RTE's School Hub programme at 11 a.m. daily. It is geared to classes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> but some content may be suitable for Senior Infants. When relevant we will reference specific lessons - e.g. Gaeilge on April 20.

If you would like to contact us directly we would be happy to help. Please use the following email addresses:

[LisaWalsh@johnstowngns.ie](mailto:LisaWalsh@johnstowngns.ie)

[AoifeChandler@johnstowngns.ie](mailto:AoifeChandler@johnstowngns.ie)

[MiriamMacnamara@johnstowngns.ie](mailto:MiriamMacnamara@johnstowngns.ie)

Best regards,

## **Exercise & Movement Breaks**

### ***Note for parents:***

The following can be used to use up some of the excess energy and also to refocus or settle your child if used as a 'movement break' during schoolwork, similarly to when the children are in school.

### **On-line Resources:**

- Cosmicyoga on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) has many fun yoga/mindfulness activities Your child will be familiar with this from school.
  
- Joe Wicks is delivering a fun P.E. class for schoolchildren. They are available on his youtube channel and can be viewed live at 9a.m. or you can access the recording at your convenience.
  
- Gonoodle and JustDance have fun dance activities

## **AISTEAR – Learning through play**

### **Theme: The Zoo**

#### **Setting up the area**

*If you have other children in your household you could involve them. Older children could lead this play activity.*

#### **Discuss with your child:**

- What will we need?
- What do you think you will do in the zoo?
- What roles could you play? (zookeeper, sales assistants in the gift shop, ticket attendant)
- If we were to pretend to be zookeepers, what might we need? Can you explain why we might need each of these items?

Go to YouTube and search 'Day in the Life - Zookeeper' (5:08) for an overview of what a zookeeper does.

You can set up a zoo using stuffed toy animals and baskets or boxes with straw or crêpe paper for bedding. Sand buckets, plastic fruit and vegetables and bowls can be used for pretend play for feeding time. A toy wheelbarrow, brush, spade and some old hose could be used to clean out animal enclosures or transport food to animals.

## **ROLE PLAY:**

- Pretend to be the tour guide teaching the children about animals.
- Pretend to be two zookeepers chatting to each other about their work.
- Pretend to be the cashier selling tickets at the entrance.

## **CONSTRUCTION:**

### **Build Zoo Enclosures**

Supply children with photos of various zoo enclosures (see downloadable Aistear materials) and ask them to plan a zoo. They must give consideration to what animals they will include, where best to place them and how to contain/house them. Children should be given clipboards, pencils and paper to do so.

Next, children build their zoos. They could decide to build with either large or small building materials. Additional materials could be supplied such as straw, green shredded paper or sheets of green paper, as well as plastic zoo animals. Children could create labels for animals or signs such as 'Do Not Feed'. Children could also create information posters, drawing and labelling various zoo animals.

## **LITERACY:**

### **Oral Language Focus:**

#### **1. Story: 'The Tiger who Came to Tea' by Judith Kerr**

Read/ listen to the book 'The Tiger who came to Tea'. Your child will be familiar with this book from school.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BXgW9UCgpc8> (Reading of the book)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d\\_3a1dgigtw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_3a1dgigtw) (Animation of the story)

Encourage your child to retell and discuss the story.

#### **2. Discuss different zoo animals using the following as prompts:**

Looks like..... Lives..... Eats.....

## **Reading:**

Continue supported reading with your child. Use the Readers sent home or those of a similar level. The Oxford Owl books referenced below include the series of Readers that your child has been using to date.

***On-line Resources:***

- [www.folensonline.ie](http://www.folensonline.ie) (Lots of free reading resources with a variety of e-book readers and sight vocabulary and interactive games appropriate for Senior Infants.)
- [www.oxfordowl.com](http://www.oxfordowl.com) (Books with an 'e' in the orange circle are free. The books are narrated or alternatively you can turn off the narration.)

**Phonics (letter sounds):**

**Revise the digraphs (2 letter sounds) ai , oa, & ee.**

Take one at a time. Look up the sounds as below. Write out words using these sounds, underlining the digraph and then ask your child to read them.

For example; rain, pain. Next call out these and other words and encourage your child to write the word themselves.

- Your child will be familiar with [alphablocks](http://www.youtube.com) on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) These are short videos which demonstrate blending of phonics to make words. You can search the ones related to specific letter sounds.  
*N.B. : Select the short 2-3 minute clips. The longer videos are frequently interrupted by ads.*
- [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) also has [Jolly Phonic](#) videos. Again, your child will be familiar with these songs and phonic sounds.

**Sight word practice:**

Continue to work on /revise sight words - as previously sent home. (Remember, these are not words to be 'sounded out' but words that should be recognised and read like your name).

**Tips:**

- Please take 1 or 2 at a time (no more than a few together) .
- Use sight word cards to play games 'Go Fish', Snap or similar.
- Find the sight words in a text or book you are reading.

*N.B.: These words take time to learn and require regular practice and revision. The reward is worth the effort as they bring improved fluency and enjoyment to your child's reading.*

***On-line Resources:***

[www.twinkl.com](http://www.twinkl.com) (Many resources to practice sight words including sight word colouring pictures.)

**Comprehension:**

Comprehension skills can be improved by encouraging your child to discuss books you have read together, or stories they have learned on-line. Encourage them to use their imagination by asking them what/if questions or asking them to predict what would happen next etc.

**On-line Resources:**

[www.storyberries.com](http://www.storyberries.com) (Free books choose by theme, age and even duration).

[www.storylineonline.net](http://www.storylineonline.net)

[www.storynory.com](http://www.storynory.com)

Cbeebies bedtime stories on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

## **WRITING:**

*Remind your child about finger spaces between words, capital letters at the beginning of sentences and full stops at the end.*

- My News: 3-4 sentences on a page and draw a picture.
- My trip to the zoo: 3-4 sentences and draw a picture.
- Write a letter or card to a relative.

Oral language discussions as above could be further developed by asking children to create posters or information sheets for the zoo. Children could pick their favourite zoo animal, draw a picture and label the animal and various body parts. This ties in with report writing. See p. 107 in Snr Infants The Over the Moon Skills Book ([Gillexplore.ie](http://Gillexplore.ie)).

## **MATHS:**

### **TOPIC 1:**

### **RECOGNISING & COUNTING NUMBERS FROM 0 TO 20**

Introduce the topic - There are many videos on youtube counting to 20.

- Practice counting to 20 and back to zero.
- Pick different starting points e.g. start at 5 and continue to 20.
- Ask your child to write the numbers you call out (use colours etc). Maybe take turns with your child in doing this and get them to 'check' your answers are correct.

\*It is important that your child understands that 11 is 1 and 10 ; 12 is 2 and 10 etc.

Suggested youtube resource:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LtFwepiUIeU> (Numberjacks 'into the teens')

*Note: If your child is having difficulty with this, start with the numbers from 0 to 10.*

## **TOPIC 2:**

### **COMPARING NUMBERS; MORE THAN & LESS THAN; THE SAME AS.**

Put a number of objects say 4 and one plate and 6 on another. Ask your child which they would prefer. Then get them to explain why. '.. because this plate has more.; How many more? " more' etc. You can use lots of different objects to practise this. Try to get your child to tell you how many more 1 plate has than the other or how many less )

Relevant youtube clips to illustrate the concept and the use of correct mathematical language:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E34PAOGYRNk> (Kids Academy -comparing numbers for kids)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PTpUPJP8pMw> (ignite study lesson 17 Compare numbers)

#### **WORKBOOK ACTIVITY:**

Busy at Maths Text Book: More than/Less than (Pgs. 102-103)

<https://www.cjfallon.ie/books/busy-at-maths/>

## **Gaeilge:**

***N.B.:*** RTE's School Hub programme has an Irish lesson on naming clothes (*éadaí*), airing on April 20th. This would be very suitable for Senior Infants.

*Please don't worry if you are not comfortable with working on Gaeilge with your child. The following are only suggested on-line sources if you would like your child to hear some Gaeilge!*

#### **On-line resources:**

- [www.Cúla4.com](http://www.Cúla4.com) a variety of age appropriate resources
- TG4 has children's programmes in Irish.
- You can select any lesson from the following on-line programmes. They include listening activities, poems and songs.
  - If in Room15 your child will be more familiar with [www.Buanacainte.ie](http://www.Buanacainte.ie) . Resources can be accessed by topic.

- If in Room16 your child will be familiar more with the AbairLiom programme. Available from [www.folensonline.ie](http://www.folensonline.ie)  
1. Click Register; 2. Select Teacher; 3. Fill in a username, email and password; 4. For Roll Number use the code: Prim20

## **S.E.S.E.:**

### **Dublin Zoo:**

Look up Dublin Zoo safari watch short clips on youtube.com for virtual tours of the zoo.

Dublin Zoo webcams are great, particularly the elephants on a hot day.

### **Research tigers:**

Encourage your child to research tigers. (Link to oral language story). Get them to tell you what they have learned. They could design and create a book about lions or tigers.

#### On-line resources:

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jEQaRY4YpVo> (video on tigers - Free school;tigers for kids)

### **Magnets:**

- Discuss where you would find magnets in the environment.
- If you have fridge magnets etc encourage your child to play with them. What materials/things do magnets attract ( work on) ?
- To learn more about magnets watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s236Q1nuWXg> (scishow kids , fun with magnets)

[www.twinkl.co.uk](http://www.twinkl.co.uk) is a great website for extra resources on magnets.

## **ART:**

### **Animal Masks**

Supply children with paper plates, paint and a range of junk material for them to create a zoo animal. They could initially paint the paper plate the appropriate colour and, when dried, add collage materials and draw in facial features using a black marker.

### **Make zoo animals**

Use play dough to make zoo animals. Make sure key physical features of the animal are considered.

### **Drawing**

When out walking observe the beautiful cherry blossom trees that are in full bloom. Try to draw one when you get home.

### **Other**

Practise some mindful colouring each day- plenty of worksheets can be found on Twinkl.

*Also, Artzone have great interactive lessons on Facebook.*

## **MUSIC**

### **'The Carnival of the Animals'**

Listen to 'The Carnival of the Animals' without looking at the screen

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=76&v=1L993HNAa8M&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=76&v=1L993HNAa8M&feature=emb_logo)

Talk to your child about which animal they imagine when hearing different parts of the piece.

Listen to it again but this time look at the pictures.