



Things To Do Over Half Term To Support Learning at Home

Supporting Outdoor Learning.

Something exciting has hatched for half term at WWT Washington.

We've teamed up with Macmillan Children's Books to bring the magical world of *Gozzle*, the brand-new picture book by Julia Donaldson and Sara Ogilvie, off the page and into the wetlands.



In the story, Bear and Gozzle set off on a heart-warming adventure about home, family, and belonging. Inspired by their journey, we've created an interactive trail that encourages children to explore, imagine, and discover the wonders of wetlands in a hands-on, joyful way.

It's a perfect spring adventure for early years and primary-aged children, offering opportunities for storytelling, outdoor learning, and nature connection.

More info on *Gozzle* from our website → <https://www.wwt.org.uk/wetland-centres/washington/whats-on/events/gozzle>

Some Literacy based learning could include :

Focus on mark-making and sound awareness.

- **Drawing & mark making**
 - Provide crayons, chalk, pencils, paint.
 - Encourage writing their name (even scribbles count!).
- **Sound spotting games**
 - "What starts with 'b'?" (ball, bus, banana)
- **Environmental print hunt**
 - Spot letters or signs when out (shop logos, road signs).
- **Learn to write my name**



Fine motor (small movements):

- Playdough squeezing and shaping
- Threading pasta onto string
- Using child-safe scissors
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We have been learning to skip here are some ideas about how to support at home over the holiday.

Before skipping, children need to confidently:

- Walk and run
- Jump with two feet
- Hop on one foot (this is the biggest stepping stone!)

Practice:

- "Hop like a bunny" (one foot)
- "Jump like a frog" (two feet)

Teach the Two Key Movements Separately

Skipping = **Step** + **Hop**

Step 1: Practice stepping

- Walk forwards normally
- Say: "Step, step, step"

Step 2: Practice hopping

- Hop on the same foot repeatedly
- Use a rhythm: "Hop, hop, hop"

Step 3 :

Demonstrate:

- Step forward (right foot)
- Hop on the same foot
- Then switch: step (left), hop

Say it out loud: "**Step-hop, step-hop**"

Children benefit from hearing the rhythm.

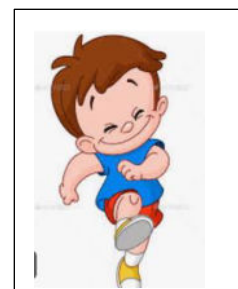
Step 4 : Use Music and Rhymes

Adding rhythm makes skipping easier.

Try:

- Clapping patterns
- Music with a steady beat
- Simple chant:

"Step-hop, step-hop, nice and slow!"



Important Diary Dates and Information

Return to school - Monday, 1st June

Sports Day - Tuesday, June 16th

For children who attend morning sessions only, you are welcome to bring your child along and join us on the field at **2:00pm**. Details of child drop off to be confirmed later as they will need to be slightly earlier than **2.00 pm** in readiness.

Parents New to Reception Meeting for our current Nursery Children - Monday 29th June 5pm

Summer Fayre - Friday 3rd July



Have a Nice Weekend
Take care,
The Nursery Team 😊