



Hillcrest Summer Camp 2021

Hello Parents and Children,

Each week we will have fun learning themes based around the children's favourite story books; which will include lots of experimental arts and sensory activities, fun outdoor physical time, exciting baking, and hopefully even some adventures and trips* outside of the nursery depending on government guidelines and restrictions at that time (fingers crossed)! *trip schedule & charges tbc

Read on and see for yourself how much fun we have planned for the children's summer at Hillcrest with myself; Caoimhe and of course my amazing assistant Courtney!

Introduction days (1 & 2 July) - We will be getting to know each-other in our newly formed summer camp bubble with poster making, shortbread baking, circle time, design an elephant & musical statues

Week 1 (5-9 July) "Have you filled your Bucket today?" – Wheel of choice, happiness hunt, card making, friendship rainbow, smiley face baking, friendship disco!

Week 2 (12-16 July) "Peter Pan" – Treasure hunt, den building, kite making, glitter slime, junk art treasure bottles making, outdoor board games, pirate hat & treasure chest making

Week 3 (19-23 July) "The Tiger who came to tea" – Tiger hunt, biscuit making, kitchen role play, puppet making/puppet show, duck, duck, tiger game, 3D tiger modelling & tiger tea-party

Week 4 (26-30 July) "Cat in the Hat" – Rhymathon, Junk art, cookie baking, potion making, forest story time, rhyme finding game, cat masks, yoga & junior scrabble

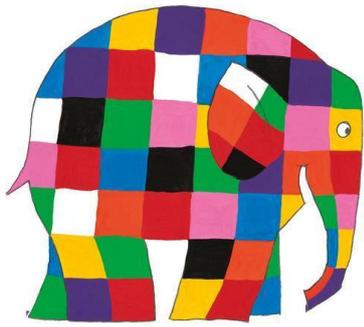
Week 5 (2-6 Aug) "Zog" - Junk art 1st aid kit, home-corner hospital, nurse hats & doctor stethoscope making, 'people who help us' games, unicorn slime, bun baking & crown making

Week 6 (9-13 Aug) "Superworm" - Painting bug rocks, football competition, bug scavenger hunt flower wands, worm slime, yoga, frozen yogurt fruit bites & skipping

Week 7 (16-20 Aug) "Scooby Doo" – Hide and seek spooky edition, make mystery machines, Scooby doo face masks, garden construction area, "it's a mystery" circle time, guess who, Scooby snacks & a fancy dress garden party

Week 8 (23-17 Aug) "The very hungry caterpillar" – Butterfly yoga, lifecycles, colourful dreamcatchers, dentist's office pretend play, cupcake making, favourite day pictures, green caterpillar slime & make colourful butterflies to hang from the trees in the forest. End of Summer farewell party!!!

Introduction days: 1st & 2nd July



'Elmer': The story of Elmer teaches us that everyone has something unique to bring to the table and that there is no point trying to hide or disguise your true self; always be yourself because that is what makes you so special, even if you are a multi-coloured elephant like Elmer.

Thursday A.M: Our first morning together will all be about getting to know each other; as we will be a new fully formed summer bubble we will have some new friends to get to know! The children can **create posters** about themselves and they can then choose if they want to talk in the group for **circle time** to talk about what they have drawn in their posters. We will hang all posters on the wall for everyone to see all about their new friends.

P.M: We will **design a giant elephant** wall display; the children will decorate their cut out shapes however they like then we will stick them all together to create a large elephant shape with lots of different patterns to show the children that we are all different and unique but we all important and fit together.

Friday A.M: Let's bake some yummy colourful **shortbread** biscuits!

P.M: We will end our week with some **musical statues** in the garden listening to the likes of 'you've got a friend in me'.

Week 1: 5th - 9th July

'Have you filled a bucket today?' This story is a firm favourite at Hillcrest, as it encourages positive behaviour by using the concept of an invisible bucket to show children how easy and rewarding it is to express kindness, appreciation and love by 'filling buckets'. So we want to set the tone for the rest of the summer with this week's theme.



Monday A.M: We will start the week off by doing a group art activity; the children will work together to make a large poster of the **'rules of summer camp'** which they will come up with themselves. We will talk about how to be a 'bucket filler' and not a 'bucket dipper'.

P.M: Bring all our arts and crafts outside and make a **'wheel of choice'**; each child has a favourite activity, we spin the wheel throughout the summer and all join in for that activity.

Tuesday A.M: Junk art time! Today we are making our very own buckets from boxes and arts and crafts, so we can start filling our friend's buckets straight away.

P.M: Let's make some playdough and enjoy some relaxing sensory time.

Wednesday A.M: Baking time! Let's make some **smiley face biscuits**. (All children will have their own area and own ingredients; everything will be COVID friendly and we will always make sure to positively talk about how we will help prevent the spread of germs to the children).

P.M: Let's make some **cards** for the residents of Annadale Nursing Home to fill their buckets; Caoimhe and Courtney will post them at the Post Office for the children.

Thursday A.M: We will hide smiley faces around the garden and have a hunt for them, filling our friend's buckets as we go along.

P.M: Time to paint a **friendship rainbow** in the garden!

Friday A.M: Morning circle time talking about all the nice things we did for our friends this week and how it made us feel.

P.M: Ending our first week of Summer Camp with a fun Friday **friendship disco**.



Week 2: 12th- 16th July:
'Peter Pan'

Monday A.M: We will make **sensory bottles** filled with pirate treasure today!

P.M: Make gold playdough to make into **pirate treasure**.

Tuesday A.M: **Junk art treasure chests**; children can take their treasure chests home to store books or toys in them at the end of the day.

P.M: Make treasure maps and go on a **treasure hunt** in the forest.

Wednesday A.M: Make **pirate hats** for a fun outdoor activity in the afternoon...

P.M: Play 'what times is mister wolf' pirate edition! 'What Times is Captain Hook?'

Thursday A.M: Make our very own **kites** and get talking about what makes them fly.

P.M: Let's get excited about our **den building** session in the garden.

Friday A.M: We will bring individual sensory boxes outside and make blue **glitter slime** for an underwater effect by adding seashells and underwater animals etc.

P.M: We will bring our pirate snakes and ladders jigsaw puzzle outside for some fun in the sun.

Week 3: 19th-23rd July:

'The tiger who came to tea'

Monday A.M: Let's begin another fun filled week by making some orange playdough.

P.M: 'We're going on a **tiger hunt**', Caoimhe and Courtney have hidden some mini tigers throughout the garden and forest and the children must find them all!

Tuesday A.M: Let's turn the home corner into the **kitchen** in the story and take turns being our favourite characters and act out the story.

P.M: Some sensory time outside with orange **water play**.

Wednesday A.M: Let's get creative and make **mini 3D tigers** from paper cups!

P.M: Outside fun playing 'duck, duck, goose' tiger edition; '**duck, duck, tiger**'.

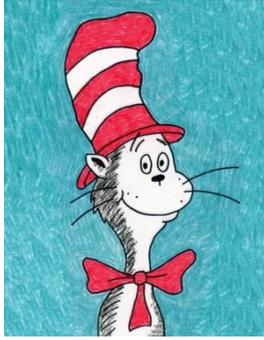
Thursday A.M: Time to make some puppets of the characters in the story.

P.M: Let's have a **puppet show** in the garden, recreating the story with all our puppets we made earlier!

Friday A.M: Baking time; we will make some yummy **tiger biscuits** for when the tiger visits for a tea party later...

P.M: Time for our **tea party** in the garden with the children's favourite cuddly toys they have brought to introduce to mister tiger.





Week 4: 26th- 30th July:

'Cat in the hat': this week we will have lots of fun practising all of our rhyming words.

Monday A.M: Let's start the week by making some red playdough.

P.M: Rhyme & find, Caoimhe and Courtney have hidden pictures of key **rhyming words** (cat, hat, dog, frog, log etc.) around the garden; can you find the correct rhyming word pairs?

Tuesday A.M: Creative art time making funny **cat masks** for our fun

afternoon activity...

P.M: Yoga time in the sun! Practising some fun animal poses including the famous 'cat cow' yoga pose. Not only is yoga fun, but it is excellent for relaxing our minds and stretching our bodies.

Wednesday A.M: Junk art time making some logs for dogs and frogs to sit on.

P.M: Have a **rhymathon**; time to give out certificates to all our little poets for working hard all week with their rhyming words

Thursday A.M: It's **junior scrabble** time; let's see how many rhyming words we can find.

PM: We will bring our **sensory boxes** outside and turn the water trays brown and add leaves and sticks and maybe even some frogs and dogs.

Friday A.M: Time to bake some **cookie wookies!**

P.M: Story time will be outside in the forest today and maybe even on top of some logs, even though we aren't frogs or dog

Week 5: 2nd- 6th August:

'Zog and the flying doctors': The children love Zog so we will base our fun week around this story and link it in with people who help us around the community.



Monday A.M: Some morning junk art fun making our own **first aid doctors boxes**.

P.M: Turn the home corner into a **hospital** and play doctors, using our ready-made first aid kits.

Tuesday A.M: Time to make some **orange playdough**.

P.M: Let's turn an area of the garden into the **X-Ray** department and make our own x-rays using cotton buds for bones for extra fun times!

Wednesday A.M: Baking time, let's make some **buns** for our families, just because we love them.

P.M: Make some 'get well soon' **cards** for those who may need them.

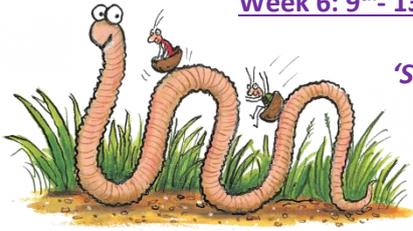
Thursday A.M: Time to make some **nurses hats and doctors stethoscopes** using various arts and crafts.

P.M: It's sensory time! We will bring our individual sensory boxes outside and make some **unicorn slime** and pretend its medicine like in the story.

Friday A.M: Circle time with various community **helpers flash cards**, the children will discuss what each helper does to help in the community.

P.M: Time to make some **crowns** and take turns acting out as our favourite characters from the story.

Week 6: 9th- 13th August:



'Superworm': The children love this story and they love learning about bugs and insects so we will link the two and have a fun learning week!

Monday A.M: We will collect some stones and rocks from the garden this morning, give them a clean and paint and **decorate our very own little bug rocks.**

P.M: Let's work off our energy with some **competitive football** fun in the garden (everyone gets trophies because we are all winners here)!

Tuesday A.M: It's time to make some **bug scavenger hunt** activity sheets...

P.M: Let's put those activity sheets to good use and have a bug scavenger hunt in the garden using magnifying glasses.

Wednesday A.M: It's **junk art** time; less rubbish in the dump for Wizard Lizard to drop in!

P.M: Let's make some pink wormy slime.

Thursday A.M: Creative art time making some beautiful little **flower wands**; just like the lizards in the story.

P.M: It's our favourite time of the week; **yoga** time! Let's focus on those spider poses.

Friday A.M: Who wants to make some yummy **frozen yogurt fruit bites**!?

P.M: it's superworm the **skipping** rope! We will practise our skills with this classic past time.

Week 7: 16th- 20th August:

'Scooby Dooby Doo'

Monday A.M: Some morning junk art fun, making our very own **mystery machines** to help solve all of the mysteries we have coming up this week!

P.M: **Hide and seek spooky edition** in the forest!

Tuesday A.M: Who wants to make some **Scooby doo face masks**!?

P.M: The children will make up their own **mysteries** and retell them for all of their friends at circle time.

Wednesday A.M: Let's play **'guess who'** and get our thinking caps on.

P.M: It's time to **solve the mystery** in the forest with the clues left behind, let's take our magnifying glasses just in case!

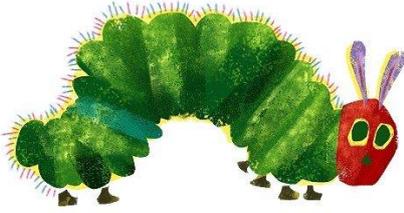
Thursday A.M: Did somebody say **Scooby snacks**!?! (It's baking time).

P.M: Who wants to have a **fancy dress garden party** for afternoon snack, I do!

Friday A.M: Time to make our very own **construction area in the garden** to start building a bigger mystery machine.

PM: Let's have a relaxing sensory session making some brown playdough after all our hard work earlier.





Week 8: 23rd - 27th August:

'The very hungry caterpillar':

Monday A.M: We will make some green playdough and mould it into little **caterpillar shapes**.

P.M: **Butterfly yoga** time in the sun; curling into little baby caterpillars and stretching into big, beautiful butterflies.

Tuesday A.M: Let's turn the home corner into a **dentist's office** to remind the caterpillar that eating too many sweets will damage his teeth! We will also make a **healthy food poster** to help him.

P.M: Who wants to make some yucky **green caterpillar slime** for our sensory boxes?

Wednesday A.M: We will make beautiful **colourful butterflies to hang from the trees** in the forest.

P.M: It's time to unwind with a relaxing audiobook about the **caterpillar life cycle**.

Thursday A.M: We are going to make **colourful dreamcatchers** to take home.

P.M: Time to get gushy; we are going to paint **favourite day pictures** and tell our friends why it was our favourite we had in summer camp

Friday A.M: Our final baking day of the summer, we are going to make lots of **cupcakes** for something incredibly special happening in the afternoon...

P.M: Our end of **summer farewell party**, where we will eat all the treats to make sure the caterpillar doesn't eat them!