

Home Learning Challenge-Shadow fun

Welcome back everyone to a new term and a new school year at Keswick House. We have found ourselves in uncertain times but have been so impressed with how maturely our new and transitioning children have returned-it's like they haven't been away at all!

For our first home learning challenge, let's make the most of the early Autumn sunshine while we still can and do some shadow drawings! These are a great way not only to develop your child's pencil grip and fine motor, but also to help make scientific concepts, such as the sun moving across the sky, more concrete. All you need for this activity is a plastic toy and some chalk, or some paper and a pencil. Pop the toy in a sunny spot outside and get your child to draw around the shadow it casts. Then, check back on it at different intervals throughout the day-does your child think it will have stayed in the same place or moved? Get them to consider why they think that. You could even explain to them that before we had clocks, people used sun dials to help tell the time-they could tell the sun's position in the sky by where the shadow on the dial fell, and then were able to use this to know what time of day it was!



If you have more than one child at home, you might want to keep them both busy by getting them to draw around each other's shadow in chalk and then colouring it in. This activity gives way to many different learning opportunities-naming different body parts, experimenting with different colours, experimenting with movement skills by striking different poses each time a different shadow is drawn etc.



Have fun!