



Picture News

In the Early Years

Speaking and Listening

EYFS Framework: Children are confident to speak in a familiar group. Shows interest in different occupations and ways of life.

Look at the Picture News poster: What can you see? Who do you think these people might be? What do you think they could be doing? I wonder where the people in the cars could be going! Tell the children the people they can see are in the Army.

Question: What do you know about the Army?

Think about: What is and who are the Army? What do you know about the army? Do you know anyone who is in it?

Discuss that people who work in the Army are called soldiers. Their main job is to help protect, which means keep safe, people and our country. Sometimes British soldiers travel to different countries to help others in need. It has been in the news that the Army is helping out with the coronavirus pandemic. In the poster, they are helping to give coronavirus tests to people who are wanting to travel to France.

Think about: Why do you think the Army are helping out with this?

Look at and discuss together some facts about the Army on the **EY Resource**.

Think about: Can you tell us anything else you know about these facts or other facts about the Army? What would you like to find out more about? Why?

Outdoor Role play: Can you take on the role of an Army Sergeant and teach your soldiers to march?

EYFS Framework: Children play co-operatively, taking turns with others. They take account of one another's ideas about how to organise their activity.

Think about: How do soldiers stand before they begin to march? How do they know which leg and arm to move first? What other instructions will the Sergeant shout apart from "left, right"? What will they shout to get the soldiers to stop/turn?

Resources: children, sergeant hat

Writing: Can you help an Army soldier by writing a list of all the different things they would need to take with them in their Army backpack?

EYFS Framework: Gives meaning to marks they make as they draw, write and paint. Uses some clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning, representing some sounds correctly and in sequence.

Discuss that when the Army goes anywhere, each soldier needs to take with them everything they might need in their own backpack. If they forget something, they will have to do without!

Think about: What things do you think a soldier might need in their backpack? What would they need if they are camping out all night? What would they need if they fell over and hurt themselves? What will they eat/drink?

Resources: Army Backpack list (See EY Additional Resource 1), pencils, sound mats

Outdoor Army Assault course: Can you make up an Army assault course to keep all the soldiers fit and healthy?

EYFS Framework: Travels with confidence and skill around, under, over, and through balancing and climbing equipment.

Recap that it is very important that soldiers are super fit and do regular exercise.

Think about: What can you use to make your assault course? What could you climb over? Could you go under anything? I wonder if the course will include any balancing! Where is the start/finish of the assault course? How can you make it even harder?

Resources: Outdoor equipment, tyres, material, wooden planks, hoops etc

Exploring and Using Media and Materials: Can you make your own camouflage pattern and explore with plastic minibeasts to see which bugs could best hide in your camouflage?

EYFS Framework: Explores what happens when they mix colours.

Recap that the army uniform is a camouflage pattern to help the Army hide in bushes etc. Look at EY Additional Resource 2, which shows 6 different camouflage patterns.

Think about: What colours can you see in these camouflage patterns? How is this green different to another green? What colours are you going to use to make your camouflage pattern? How could you make a darker/lighter shade of brown?

When the camouflage is dry, allow the children to explore putting different coloured minibeast onto their camouflage.

Think about: Which bug can you see the easiest on your camouflage? Which one do you think is most hidden? Why do you think this is?

Resources: Different camouflage patterns (see EY Additional Resource 2), children paint (camouflage colours), mixing pallets, paintbrushes, aprons, paper, minibeast

Useful Song

Five Little Soldiers – Nursery Rhymes Songs For Children

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVXfIoQivhs>