



Moonbudees Foundation

Sue Hedley, Head Teacher
South Tyneside Early Excellence Centre

Moonbudees Foundation is an inspirational resource which engages young children in concrete learning experiences across the whole curriculum. It captures children's interest, imagination and creativity. Children are taken on a journey of exploration of 'real life', first in their own natural environment. The resources value the process and creativity of learning. It is open-ended, allowing the child to build and extend on what they already know and can do! The animation, music and lyrics are all embracing which captivates the children and staff's interest and enthusiasm. The composition of the music and songs open up significant opportunity to develop children's oracy and linguistic skills which is fundamental for any young child.

The Moonbudees Foundation resource has a huge impact on all areas of the curriculum. With our very young children, exploring knowledge and understanding of the world in the outdoor environment is paramount to their learning. Through this exploration of the natural world and their work with the Moon-bud-ees on the Smart Board, children's physical development and spatial awareness are supported and extended. In relation to the child's creative development, the music, animation, rhythm and pattern within the programme significantly supports their language development, thus highlighting the cross curricular impact of Moonbudees Foundation. It encourages life skills as children have to use their initiative, make decisions and have choice of how they work with the resource. It also encourages independent learners who take responsibility for their thinking and learning.

Teachers feel it gives them a wealth of opportunity to observe and assess the child's development throughout the whole Foundation Stage Curriculum. It is totally child-centred – it is 'failure-free'. Children are alleviated from an uncomfortable test-like programme which could set children up to fail. The support material of images in the 'real world' are an invaluable support to children in their own 'mini projects'. We feel children should have unlimited access to the resource every day.

As a Nursery school in the Foundation Stage, we feel it is a one-stop-shop to support and extend children's learning. It is an active learning, all-engaging resource which intrinsically motivates both children and staff. With Moonbudees Foundation, children want to engage and learn, which you could never put a price on. Fundamentally, it is a huge amount of fun – a real imaginative, social experience.