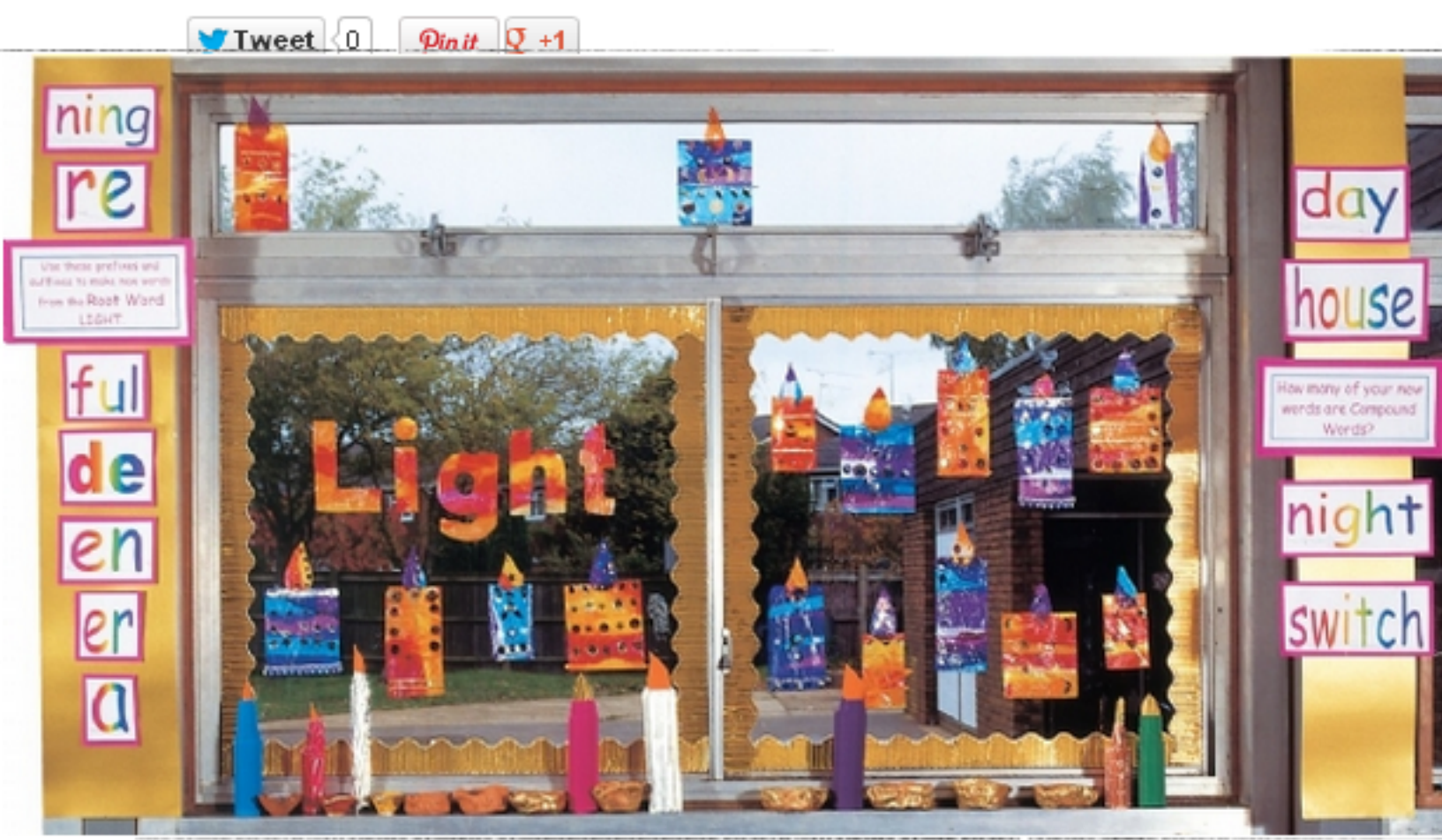


Themed Activities: **Delightful Words**



A window is the perfect place to display this light-themed activity

**Learning Objective**

To understand and practise root words through the theme of light.

**Starting Points**

- ➔ Introduce the concept of root words with an example such as 'clear' to demonstrate how new words can be created by adding a variety of prefixes and suffixes. For example, clearly, unclear, cleared, clearing etc.
- ➔ Provide a range of words to which the prefixes al- and a- can be added. For example, mighty, most, pine, so, ready, ways, like, cross, light, head, ground, float, sleep, live, lone, shore, stray, loft, loud and so on.
- ➔ Ask the children to find the meanings of each word in the dictionary. Then ask them to work out what the meanings of the prefixes al- and a- are.
- ➔ Give the children a set of four cards, with one the following suffixes on each card; -en, -ly, -ful, -less. Provide a variety of word cards such as bright, colour, soft, quiet, truth, proud, hard, calm and hope. Ask the children to mix and match the cards to make new words. You can ask them to do this within a fixed time, and to record the new words that they have made on a whiteboard.
- ➔ Suggest how they can influence the meanings of these words in context, and use each new word in a full sentence.

**Make**

- ➔ In keeping with the theme of light you can arrange this display around your classroom window. Make a list of suffixes and prefixes down one side of the window, and add a list of words that can be used with light to make compound words on the other.
- ➔ Paint and cut out the word Light in large colourful letters and stick it on the window.
- ➔ Add metallic corrugated card around the window frames to add more light to the display.
- ➔ Ask children to make translucent tissue candles, using the technique below, and add to the window.
- ➔ Add clay diwas, lanterns and cardboard models of candles along the windowsill.

**Translucent Tissue Candles**

- ➔ Open up a large white plastic bin liner and spread it flat on a tabletop.
- ➔ Using a large brush, spread a mixture of 40% PVA glue and 60% water all over the surface of the white plastic.
- ➔ Apply strips of coloured tissue paper to the entire surface of the liner, overlapping to create new colours.
- ➔ Spread another layer of glue mixture on top of the tissue and leave to dry.
- ➔ When dry, peel the layer of coloured tissue from the liner.
- ➔ Cut the paper into a variety of candle shapes and shapes to represent flames. Glue the flames to the top of each candle.
- ➔ Decorate the candles with sequins, shiny ribbon and beads.

**Activities**

- ➔ Play the game, 'Lightning Time'. In pairs, generate as many derivations as possible from the root word, 'light'. Set a time limit of five minutes. Provide dictionaries for extra help, and remind children to use the suffix and prefix list on the wall for support.  
Children's lists might include: Lightning, Flight, Delight, Lighter, Lighten, Enlighten, Lights, Slight, Slightly, Alight, Lightweight, Delightful, Lighthouse, Light switch, Light-headed, Relight, Flighty, Nightlight, Light-fingered, Light-hearted, Light-footed, Lightship.
- ➔ Recap on the difference between the words that have been made by adding a prefix or a suffix to a root word, and compound words, which have been made by adding two words together. Ask children to sort the words they have made and make a list.
- ➔ Ask each pair to identify how the meanings of the words they have made have been changed by the addition of prefixes and suffixes.

**Develop and Extend**

This activity can link well to work on Diwali, the festival of lights, in RE, where children consider the meaning and symbolism of the festival. And also in art where children might be asked to make clay diwas or Rangoli pictures.

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