



Welcome Home Puffin Pal

The Story

In 'Welcome Home Puffin Pal', Puffin Pal and his family are making the long journey back to their Summer home on Lucky Island, and (as many youngsters do on a long journey), Pal is getting tired. He uses his imagination to think of all the 'nice things' he will be able to do when he gets there and these rewards are what keep him going when he feels tired.

This story is all about perseverance and resilience when things seem difficult – and learning that the rewards you get when you 'keep going' can be great. Importantly, Pal's family do not offer him 'bribes', but instead it is up to Puffin Pal to identify his own rewards.

The Story and the Enterprise Eggs

This story is linked to three of the Enterprise Eggs:

 **Be Positive** - There are times during the journey when Pal feels he may not be able to go on – but his family help him to face the challenge with a positive attitude.

 **Create It** - Auntie Pam suggests that Pal 'thinks of nice things' to keep him going during the journey. Pal uses his imagination to think about all of the fun and enjoyment he will have once he arrives at Lucky Island.

 **Keep Going** - Pal has to be persistent in order to achieve his goal of reaching Lucky Island, even when the journey seems very long and challenging. This helps him learn that in order to gain the greatest rewards you need to put in considerable effort!

Did you Know?

Puffins spend all winter out at sea, and fly thousands of miles in stormy weather to reach their Summer nesting grounds on the cliffs and islands around our coasts.

Parent & Teacher Guide

Enterprise Eggs Activity Ideas

Get Outdoors Try planting some flowers or vegetables in your garden or in a window box that take a few weeks or months to germinate and grow – encourage children to be patient in waiting for their reward.

Take a longer than normal walk in the countryside with a clear destination – if your child gets tired, encourage them to keep going by spotting things along the way and imagining their favourite things.

On a Journey If you're making a long journey and your child becomes bored, ask them to imagine what they will do when they reach the destination and describe it to you in detail.

Rainy Days Make a 'My Nice Things' poster or wristband. Encourage your child to paint, draw, or make a collage of all their favourite things. Make the drawing into a poster that they can look at when they feel sad or tired – or paint them on a strip of paper that can be taped together into a wristband for them to wear.

Vocabulary

Puffin

Beak

Island

Soar

Swoop

Purple

Burrow



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Curriculum-Based Activity Ideas

The activities below are linked to the Welsh Foundation Phase curriculum, but many will also be relevant to the Early Years Foundation Stage (England), the Early Years Framework (Scotland) and the Foundation Stage (Northern Ireland).

Language, Literacy & Communication Skills

- There are lots of adjectives in the story for children to learn. Ask them to talk about their favourite 'nice things' using describing words.
- Use the alliterative sentences to practice 's' sounds and writing the letter 's'.
- Practice 'v' sounds and writing the letter 'v'.
- Use the 'snoozing' scene to practice 'z' sounds and writing the letter 'z'.

Welsh Language Development

- Welsh vocabulary: 'Pal' means 'Puffin' in Welsh.
- Welsh vocabulary: Mam = Mam, Dad = Dad, Auntie = Anti

Mathematical Development

- Count all of the Puffins on the 'Can you find him' page.
- Find Puffin Pal hidden amongst the other Puffins.

Knowledge and Understanding of the World

- Find out where Puffins live in the Winter and in the Summer. Mark the locations on a map.
- Plan a class or family visit to a Puffin colony (they're normally only on land between April and July so you'll need to time it right) – you can normally get very close to Puffins. See 'Find Out More' for details.

Creative Development

- Ask the children to think of their favourite things and draw, paint or make a collage of them.
- Why not create an Island scene on the classroom wall and stick all of the children's 'nice things' pictures into Puffin Pal's thought bubble.
- Pal has a very purple beak. Colour in a picture of Puffin Pal to practice colour recognition. Or, help children make their own Puffin Pal out of felt (this is what we used in the books), and use it to make a card or a picture for your wall. Download our Puffin Pal Outline from our website (see below).
- Ask children to make up or write their own story of what Puffin Pal did when he arrived at Lucky Island – download our Storyboard Worksheet from:

www.puffinpal.org

Personal and Social Development, Well-being and Cultural Diversity

- Puffin Pal has to go on a long journey to get home to his island home – ask children to 'flap their wings' for a whole minute and to think of their nice things to keep them going (also links to physical development).
- Puffin Pal is special because of his very purple beak – use this as a springboard for class discussion about how we recognise people we know and to challenge stereotypes. Use props to pretend to be each character – a hat for Dad, beads for Mam, glasses for Auntie Pam. On the Puffin outline sheet draw a hat on Dad, beads on Mam, glasses on Auntie Pam.

Physical Development

- Ask children to join in with the actions as you read the story – swooping and soaring, squeaking and squawking, singing and smiling.

Find out more:

Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales – For visits to Skomer and Skokholm Islands, and a great puffin factsheet. www.welshwildlife.org

RSPB – For puffin facts and pictures. www.rspb.org.uk

Scottish Seabird Centre – For puffin facts and videos and visits to Scottish seabird colonies. www.seabird.org

National Trust – For visits to the Farnes Islands. www.nationaltrust.org