

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum Links:

Listening, Attention and Understanding:

Make comments about what they have heard and ask questions to clarify their understanding.

Speaking:

Offer explanations for why things might happen, making use of recently introduced vocabulary from stories, nonfiction, rhymes and poems when appropriate.

The Natural World:

Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants. Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

Creating with Materials:

Make use of props and materials when role playing characters in narratives and stories.

Being Imaginative and Expressive:

Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher.

Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and – when appropriate – try to move in time with music.

Essential Prior Learning:

Communication and Language

- Learn and use new vocabulary through the day.
- Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has been said to them.
- Articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences.
- Connect one idea or action to another using a range of connectives.
- Describe events in some detail.
- Use talk to help work out problems, organise thinking and activities, and to explain how things work and why they might happen.
- Engage in story times including fiction and non-fiction books.

Understanding the World

- Explore the natural world around them.
- Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.
- Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.

Expressive Arts and Design

- Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings.
- Return to and build on previous learning, refining and developing their ideas.
- Watch and talk about dance and performance art, expressing their feelings and responses.
- Develop storylines in their pretend play.

Progression in Skill:

- Ask and answer questions in relation to growing, changes they observe & mini beasts.
- Make predictions and explain their thinking.
- Make observations of animals & plants, using technology and books to learn more about them and their similarities and differences.
- Look closely and draw their observations with good control.
- Learn about what living things need to grow and life cycles.

- Safely use gardening tools and equipment they will need to plant seeds and independently look after their own garden.
- Represent their observations of the growing plants & animals in different ways.
- Review their creations, using metacognitive strategies, thinking about how they can improve or edit their pieces.
- Plan their own storytelling shows that involve songs, music, dance and costumes.

Long-term Memory Knowledge:

Children should know:

Plants need water, light and soil to grow.

We need to take care of plants to protect our planet. Mini beasts are important to plants and other animals. Plants and animals go through changes and processes of growth. (Life cycles).

Key Vocabulary	
plant	living thing that grows from the land
grow	living thing that gets bigger as it gets older
seed	the part of the plant that grows a new
	plant
root	holds the plant in the ground and takes
	food and water from the soil
mini beast	small creature such as an insect, worm,
	spider etc.

Relevance	
Now	Children know how to respect and care
	for other living things.
Future	Children can identify other living
	creatures and know how to support their
	growth, where appropriate.
Aspiration	Children can play an active role in looking
	after their community and the wider
	world.