

Reception Curriculum Overview

Spring 2 - Living things

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

The children will:

- work together towards a common goal, including planting seeds in the vegetable patch
- be encouraged to negotiate and resolve problems, for instance by finding a compromise
- find out about our school value, appreciation, and think about something they are grateful for
- think about the importance of regular exercise and a balanced diet as part of our 'healthy me' topic during weekly PSHE Jigsaw sessions.

Mathematics

The children will:

- be shown different ways to find the answers to addition and subtraction calculations, for instance by combining two groups of objects, or using a number line to count on or count back
- recap mathematical vocabulary used to describe 2D shapes, and be introduced to language such as 'faces' and 'edges' when exploring 3D shapes
- be introduced to different measures and language to compare the lengths, heights and weights of objects
- be introduced to the concept of time, and consider different ways of measuring time.

Communication and Language

The children will:

- use language to give explanations, by talking about why things happen and how things work
- use a wider range of vocabulary, exploring the meaning and sounds of new words relating to living things.

Understanding the World

The children will:

- discuss seasons and changes in the weather as we move into Spring
- explore living things and answer questions about plants, animals and humans
- discuss similarities and differences in relation to living things
- have opportunities to meet and observe animals during Science Week
- grow vegetables in the Reception vegetable patch
- discuss living things during RE sessions, including what animals give us and the Easter story
- use ICT to record different experiences, for instance by taking photographs during our visit from the animal man.

Expressive Arts and Design

The children will:

- use materials to solve problems, such as finding ways to make a nest for the chicks during Science Week
- explore using different materials, tools and techniques when creating cards for different celebrations this half-term
- sing nursery rhymes and action songs as part of the 'our World' focus for our music sessions.

Physical Development

The children will:

- continue to develop their **gross motor skills** when exploring the quad and taking part in weekly PE sessions. This half-term, Penguins will be focusing on tennis, Kangaroos will be exploring dance and Meerkats will be developing their ball skills
- continue to develop their **fine motor skills** during daily morning activities, with a focus on applying cursive letters to everyday writing, for instance when writing words and sentences
- discuss ways to stay healthy and notice the effects of physical activity on their bodies.

Literacy

The children will:

- recap the digraph sounds introduced during Spring 1, with a focus on applying them to reading and writing, for instance by blending the sounds in **b-o-a-t** for reading, or chopping up the sounds in **sh-o-p** for writing
- be introduced to new tricky words, with a focus on recognising them without sounding letters out
- recall tricky word spellings for writing
- learn the names of the letters within the alphabet
- share fiction stories to coincide with our topic and the different celebrations taking place this half-term, such as Mr Wolf's Pancakes for Shrove Tuesday
- use non-fiction texts to find out information and answer questions about living things
- be encouraged to write words and sentences with increasing independence.