

Foundation Stage Spring 1 Term Overview

The themes for this half term will be:

**Who are the famous characters inside my books?
Winter and Chinese New Year**

Characteristics of Learning: how your child learns

The children will be learning through finding out and exploring, playing with what they know and being willing to have a go. They will also be encouraged to get involved and concentrate on activities through perseverance and enjoy meeting their own challenges whilst developing their own ideas. Children will develop their critical thinking through making links, predictions and problem solving in their play.

Communication, Language and Literacy

Key questions:

- Can I tell you about my favourite superhero?
- Can I go on wild walk and tell you what I can see/feel/smell?
- Can I answer questions about 'Room on a Broom'?
- Can I make up a new story about the three billy goats?
- Can I describe my favourite fairy tale character for a friend to guess?
- Can I read my lift the flap page to another child in school?

In addition to these questions, we will look closely at winter poems. We will learn, perform and then create our own. We will then move onto the traditional tale 'Jack and the beanstalk'. We will learn the story and then write our own. Towards the end of the half term, children will look at instructions and then write their own instructions after making a stir fry. Within this learning will be shared, guided and independent writing. Phonics will continue daily. We will continue to learn new sounds to support our reading and writing as well as tricky words.

Expressive Arts and Design

Key questions:

- Can I make a super hero cape?
- Can I paint a map of a wild adventure?
- Can I produce a magic potion and make up a song about it?
- Can I use junk modelling/construction toys to make a bridge for the goats?
- Role -play Can I dress up as a fairy tale character and have a tea party with my fairy tale friends?
- Can I make a lift the flap book or picture?

In art, the children will be creating landscapes from traditional tales and books. They will look closely at different materials when investigating structures. They will make their own bridges and then experiment with objects of different weights and observe the outcomes. In music, the children will explore sounds, how to make them and how to change them, using both their voices and instruments. They will also learn a range of songs and will be encouraged to accompany them with appropriate instruments. They will take part in dragon dancing, painting and create writing from the Chinese alphabet.

Mathematical development

During this term, children will look closely at the composition of numbers. They will begin to compare numbers, talking about more and less and finding out how many more and less. They will use mathematical language to explain their findings. We will compare mass and capacity. Children will be encouraged to explain their thinking, showing mastery of concepts and skills.

Understanding of the World.

Key questions:

- Could you be a super hero?
- Where are the Wild Things?
- Is there any Room on the Broom for me?
- Could you help the three Billy Goats Gruff get to the other side of the bridge?
- Would you like to have tea with The Gruffalo?

Children will look at different landscapes when creating their own traditional tale, making observations and comparisons.

Physical Development

Can I use scissors and equipment to make a cape/ lift the flap picture/ map?
Can I move like a fairy tale character?
Can I write a character's name?

The children will continue to develop their physical skills during a range of activities. Each week, they will have a coached session by our sports coach. They will also have the opportunity to develop their balancing and riding skills using a range of outdoor equipment. Every day we will take part in 'fun Fit' which is a short session that supports our gross motor development. We will look at healthy food choices during our cooking activities (making a stir fry) and decide what makes our meal balanced.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Key questions:

Can I talk about what makes me happy/ sad/ angry/excited?
Can I listen to stories and think about how the characters might be feeling?
Can I see how characters have behaved based on their feelings?
Can we make a list of things that we can do if we feel upset or sad?
How can we help our friends when they are feeling upset/ angry or sad?
Can we think about how we can play fairly? (egg timers etc)
How can we manage our feelings in other places e.g. at home, in shops etc.

Children will look closely at the characters in books and explore their character, feelings and behavior. We will talk about actions and consequences. Children will talk about what happens to our bodies when we feel different emotions and that feelings are OK. We will talk about what to do when we are feeling sad or upset to help us manage our feelings. Children will take part in social stories that help us to share and play fairly.