

Knowledge and understanding of the world

Learning Objectives

- To discover all about the world we live in and to glorify in all we discover
- To work within the ethos of the school.
- To investigate objects and materials as appropriate.
- For pupils to find out about, and identify some features of living things, objects and events they observe.
- To explore both the indoor and outdoor environments.
- To look closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change.
- To ask questions about why things happen and how they work.
- To build and construct using a wide range of resources.
- To select tools and techniques needed to shape, assemble and join materials.
- Find out about and identify the uses of everyday technology and use Information and communication technology to support learning.
- To find out about past and present events in their own lives and in those of their families and other people they know.
- To observe, find out about and identify features in the place they live and the natural world.
- To find out about their environment and talk about those features they like and dislike.
- To begin to know about their own cultures and beliefs and those of other people.

Activities

To be led by the interests of the children, the items they bring in to show us, where they have been, who they have visited and anything else of interest they talk about.

We also introduce different themes in the setting but often find we do not complete the work as we planned as the children take the work off in a different direction.

Examples of the themes we cover may include;

Colours,

Set up colour table in classroom, invite pupils to bring in objects for colour of the week.

Make pictures, models etc. based on colour of the week eg. blue balloons, red poppies, yellow wheat etc.

Use coloured water and playdough to supplement these activities where appropriate.

Choosing favourite colours

Looking at colours in the environment, and how they change at different times of the year.
mixing colours to make a new colour.

Family

Looking at members of their own family including pets
where they live
how they grow up comparing photos
ages

Special times of the Year and the seasons

Walking around the locality, collecting natural materials, noticing the changes the seasons bring.
Planting bulbs, flowers and vegetables.
Watching for the first flowers to appear
Christmas, Easter, Harvest, St Georges Day, Chinese New Year, Divali, etc.

Special Events

birthdays, weddings,
Royal Wedding, Jubilee
Olympics
School events, Food Festival, Poetry Day, Souper Day

Weather

Daily weather chart
Effect of the weather on our daily lives, scraping ice from car, protection from sun, flooding, drought.
splashing in puddles, playing in snow & ice, care in hot weather.
wearing different types of clothing at different times of year.

Scientific ideas

Find out about ways sounds can be made using a range of objects, making and playing musical instruments loudly and quietly.
Observing light sources and dark.
Floating and sinking
Magnetism
Magnifying glasses
Blowing and making bubbles
Flying kites
Cooking, both sweet and savoury, observing changes in dough mixture during preparation and colour and texture changes when baked, discuss what causes these changes.
Keeping warm/cold, exploring different materials
Food, sources of eggs from hens, apples growing on trees, milk from cows etc
Hatching eggs
investigating rubbish

Keeping Healthy

healthy eating

importance of exercise

managing coughs and colds, blowing nose properly

what are germs

Imaginative Play

home corner, vets, dentists, doctors, Antarctic camp, hairdressers, garage etc

dressing up clothes, making up and acting stories, fashion shows

Natural history

birds identifying, watching nest box, feeding in winter

animals and pets how to look after them

trees and plants

mini beasts

dinosaurs

Visits –

forest to explore autumn and colours., local smallholding to collect eggs,

Theatre visits, bus rides, visits to local shops and cafes

Exploring the locality

farms

Churches of different denominations, Cathedral

Technology

Use of computer and software- writing names and simple words, playing games, finding information.

Using torches, recording devices, cameras, camera in bird box

Geography

Comparing our way of life with other countries

looking at maps and globes

different climates, foods, clothing

Use of construction kits to make models and structures with pupils being encouraged to develop their own ideas.

Creative development- cutting, sticking to make pictures, models etc.

Improving and extending vocabulary-

eg. rough, smooth, hard, soft, wet, dry, hot, cold ,

being able to describe items and feelings

Physical development-

using tools and materials appropriately, and being able to select correct tools for a job.

changing materials by squashing, stretching etc.

Differentiation

Pupils to work at their individual levels throughout the year with activities being adapted accordingly and with appropriate adult support or intervention provided.

Extension work is always available

Assessment

Each child's progress is followed and developed with teacher observations and recorded in individual Learning Stories

Pupils work commented on, dated and filed.

Verbal praise and stickers given on individual merit

Photos taken regularly and stored

At the end of Year R Foundation Stage Profile is completed.

All other work related to this curriculum area to be dated and filed in topic folders for each term.

Resources

Colour table

Sand tray +spades, buckets, sieves, containers etc.

Water tray+ Pouring apparatus, containers

Food colouring

Dough

Wheat

Autumn leaves, conkers, acorns etc.

Autumn and Harvest pictures

Christmas Story and nativity

Collection of different materials- wool, fabric, metal, wood, paper.

Weather and Seasons pictures

Samples of clothes/ pictures of clothes from around the world

Pictures of clothes/ samples of old clothes

Weaving loom

Seeds and plants

School grounds and buildings

Pictures of homes around world

2D shape collection

Pictures and decorated artefacts.

Animal and bird pictures.

Construction Kits- Duplo, Lego, Popoids, Meccano, wooden bricks.

Computer

Software programmes:

H.E. room

Cooking ingredients as appropriate

Art and craft materials

home corner

dolls houses

outside spaces
garden area and tools
outside toys
magnifying glasses, compass, bug boxes
magnets, metal objects
floating and sinking objects
bikes, scooters and other ride on toys
prams and pushchairs
pop up dens and tents