

CURRICULUM TOPIC OVERVIEW

Autumn Term

'Myself/Owl Babies' is a topic children invariably find absorbing! It offers opportunities to explore diverse aspects of life experiences and includes a mini-topic on the senses. This topic also covers starting school and separating from our main carers. Within the learning challenges for this topic the children will research and learn about nocturnal animals. They will explore their own feelings about the dark and discuss what it is like to be afraid and brave. The children will research animal homes and discuss how these compare to their own. Asking questions, will be a key element of learning throughout all the challenges. The children will develop their art skills and represent the nocturnal animals and themselves using different media. Outdoor den making, using musical instruments, and retelling the story 'Owl Babies' story will be key learning opportunities. There will also be an opportunity for the children to bake some nest cakes and follow cooking instructions.

Myself

Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Understanding the World (past and present)

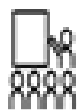
ELG: Work and play cooperatively and take turns with others. Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class

ELG: Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.

ELG: Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society.

ELG: Set and work towards simple goals, being able to wait for what they want and control their immediate impulses when appropriate.

ELG: Express their ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including use of past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions, with modelling and support from their teacher.



Developing an understanding of what they like, dislike and compare this with their peers. Direct teaching of past and present terms, making links to experiences in their own lives.



Provision linked to: identity and understanding individuality; exploring stories with story that reflect personal experiences and tasks that require team work

Owl babies

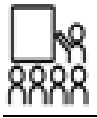
Expressive Art and Design (creating with materials), Understanding the World (past and present, people and communities)

ELG: Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.

ELG: Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.

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

ELG: Sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs; Perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and – when appropriate – try to move in time with music.



Developing an understanding of key events in one's lifetime.
Make explicit links between how key events and festivals are celebrated in a range of cultures and communities.



Provision linked to: commonalities between celebrations;
inspiring awe in alternative experiences and creatively
expressing themselves in a range of ways. Wild Things and the
UK (geography): observation of wildlife in the UK

Spring Term (First half)

Space

What can we find beyond the sky? What's in Space and how will we get there? These are the big questions that we will find the answers too this half term. The space theme will be introduced using the story "Whatever Next". We will create a story sack and classroom space station. The children will look at what an astronaut does by exploring clothing and the functions of an astronaut's suit. We will explore materials used for clothes and helmets.

The children will investigate Space shuttles – designing and making their own for role play – large and small scale collaborative projects. We will learn about the solar system, discussing features, naming and ordering the planets. We will research the history of space travel, (Yuri Gagarin/ Katherine Johnson/animals – Able & Baker). We will pose questions such as, 'What do people need to survive in space?' and 'What would it be like to visit the moon?' A virtual reality space tour is also planned for this half term.

Space	
Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Understanding the World (the natural world), Physical, Expressive Art and Design creating with materials	
ELG: Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.	
ELG: They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.	
ELG: Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.	
ELG Share their creations, explaining the process they have used.	
	Introduction of the concept of chronology, both personally and of larger scale events. Develop an understanding of the earth as a planet and changes that have occurred.
	Provision linked to: key periods of the earth's history; an understanding of past, present and future and human impact on the planet. Space

Blue Planet (second half)

Let's explore our blue planet and the wonders within. We will be diving into the depths of the ocean, finding out about the animals that live there and learning what we can do to look after our planet. We will be putting on our aprons and getting creative with collages, different materials and making our own sea creatures! We will also be developing our writing further using ocean-based books and clips from David Attenborough's Blue Planet. The children will be splashing around and investigating the capacity of different containers and they will explore many hands-on tasks with size and weight. They will also look at subtraction and solve problems using practical resources. We will be thinking about our environment and how to be resilient recyclers! We will create beautiful blossoms to represent the Sakura festival in Japan. The children will consider ways to help recycle and create posters to remind others of the importance of recycling and looking after our world.

Blue Planet

Understanding the World (people and communities)

Expressive Arts and Design, Personal, Social and Emotional Development

ELG: Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

ELG: Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants.

ELG: Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and – when appropriate – maps.

ELG: Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class.



Direct comparison between the physical geography of UK, Kenya, Antarctic.

Make observations of animals and plants and their adaptations to their environments



Provision linked to: exploration of own environment; inspiring an awe and wonder for habitats around the world and observation of changes. Land Ahoy (geography): identify the continents and oceans

Summer Term (First Half) Food,

Glorious Food!

Get your chef hats on and into the kitchen! This term we will be looking at food, finding out where our food comes from, tasting foods and we will even get opportunities to do some of our own cooking. We will explore foods from all around the world (fair trade) and the children will get the chance to design their own menus. Healthy eating is an important topic and so the children will be considering ways to stay healthy, with a focus on looking after our teeth and create their own poster to demonstrate and share their ideas. We will look at a range of food-based stories such as 'The Giant Jam Sandwich' and we will grow our own vegetables in the Early Years Garden. The children will explore 3D shapes (snappy crocodile art challenge) and begin to consider simple properties of them such as, if they can roll, slide or stack. During this topic a mini topic on 'people who help us' will be taught exploring the roles of farmers, health professionals etc.

Food, Glorious Food!

Expressive, Arts and Design, Understanding the world, People and communities

ELG: Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing, going to the toilet and understanding the importance of healthy food choices

ELG: Work and play cooperatively and take turns with others.

ELG: Show an understanding of their own feelings and those of others, and begin to regulate their behaviour accordingly

ELG: Be confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenges.



Identification of positive personal qualities that are required to be a 'hero' and the importance of tolerance. Exploration of how to positively impact on personal health.



Provision linked to: staying healthy and professionals who support this; the role of the emergency services and consolidation of team based tasks.

Heroes to the Rescue, continuing exploration of 'real life' heroes, including the emergency services, and their influence in history.

Summer Term (Second Half)

Imagine

Imagine a magical world of kings, castles and dragons... that's where we'll be heading off to this term! We will join Goldilocks, Little Red Riding Hood and many more and we will be using role play opportunities to act out a range of traditional tales. This is also the term where we will be buckling up our seatbelts and going on an adventurous school trip. We will be using different materials to create our own fantasy lands and castles, and we will consider different characters that might live there. The children will explore junk modelling resources and will consider the best way of assembling their chosen materials such as sticky tape or glue. We will also be getting magical and make our own potions! Towards the end of the summer term, the children will start to think about moving up to Year 1 and will reflect on their fantastic year in Reception. We will participate in a range of exciting transition activities which will prepare the children for the next part of their learning journey.

Imagine

Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language, Expressive, Arts and Design (being imaginative)

ELG: Demonstrate understanding of what has been read to them by retelling stories and narratives using their own words and recently introduced vocabulary.

ELG Use and understand recently introduced vocabulary during discussions about stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems and during role play.

ELG: Invent, adapt and recount narratives and stories with peers and their teacher

ELG: Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function

ELG: Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps.



Immersion into a range of narratives and repeated story language. Exploration of similarities and differences in familiar fairy tales.



Provision linked to: recreating familiar narratives with a range of mediums including small world and puppets and opportunities to create their own narratives.