



Reception Curriculum Overview Spring 2 2024

The Theme of Investigation (TOI) is: **Systems and Structures**

Our CENTRAL INVESTIGATION is: **We are collaborative architects**

Children's input into learning

Although we start by focusing on the whole-school 'Theme of Investigation', learning in the EYFS follows the childrens' interests, therefore as we progress through the term we may also investigate completely different things. All learning here is a guide as to what we might cover during this half term.

Home Learning Ideas

Communication and Language: Encourage your child to orally make up their own stories. Correct grammar and tenses when children are speaking – went / 'goed'... Play games to improve memory – such as 'I went to the shops and I bought...' where extra objects are added each time and all need to be recalled in order. Or 'Kim's game' games where they have to work out what is missing from a set they have been shown.

Maths: Support your children to begin subitising up to ten (fast recognition of objects without counting them). Continue to work on telling the time (0'clock) describing what times of day things happen – morning, afternoon, evening. Looking at doubling amounts and objects. Can you find 2D or 3D shapes in the environment?

Literacy: **Please encourage your child to read their school reading book every day.** Get your children to read you a story; can they look at the pictures in a book and make up their own stories based on these? Can they spot the 'red /tricky words' out and about or in their books: I, to, go, no, into the, put, of, my, he, be, me, we, she, you, your, are, said.

Understanding the World: What different homes and structures can they identify when out and about. Can they work out what different materials have been used to build them? With Spring on the way it's a great time to get your child involved with some gardening; they can help you plant and then care for these plants - talk through the life cycle of a plant as you do it to develop their understanding.

Expressive Arts and Design: Encourage your children to make more complex 'small worlds' using blocks and other construction toys, such as a city with different buildings and a park. Can they build homes for wildlife? (bug hotels, bird nests...) Maybe they can reuse some old bottles to create flowerpots or bird feeders.

Physical Development: Focus on developing those fine motor skills. Learning how to control a pencil isn't all about mark making and writing practice, children need to develop strength and dexterity first. Playdough is great for this; focus on pinching, rolling, squeezing - why not give dough disco a go? You can find links for this on YouTube and make it a regular activity.

Celebrations and Festivals

We are a diverse school with children from many different cultures and religions and this is something we ensure we celebrate. Some festivals/special days we may explore this half term include: Mother's Day, Ramadan, Easter. If ever you have a celebration special to your family that you would like to support us with, please do let Mrs Stirling know.

Mathematics	Literacy (Reading and Writing)	Communication and Language
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Composition of numbers to ten • Addition and subtraction facts for numbers to ten (and beyond) • Comparing and ordering numbers • Estimation • Properties of 3D shapes • Patterns • Telling the time • Number formation (handwriting) 	<p>Our focus will be on ‘The Three Little Pigs’ and ‘Three Billy Goats Gruff’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparing different story versions and discussion of similarities and differences. • To be able to talk about likes and dislikes and to give reasons for choices. • Writing sentences and beginning to write / tell stories using the phonic sounds that we know. • To continue to read and write ‘tricky words’ with growing independence. • Demonstrating our understanding when talking with others about what we have read. • Focus on correct letter formation and position of letters on the line. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening carefully to instructions and other people’s ideas. • Listening and responding to ideas expressed by others and commenting accurately when listening to stories or to discussions. • Sharing our own ideas in an appropriate manner. • Following multi-step instructions. • Remembering to take turns when speaking and listening. • Speaking in full sentences, thinking about using tenses correctly when describing past, present and future events.
Expressive Arts and Design	Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Understanding the World
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing houses and structures. • Joining materials to create a strong and sturdy structure (houses, rafts and bridges). • Observational drawing. • Exploring materials used for building. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What should we believe? • Show sensitivity to their own and others’ needs. • Be confident to try new activities and show independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge. • Set and work towards simple goals, being able to wait for what they want and control their immediate impulses when appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think about different buildings and landmarks around the world. • Think about how buildings (homes) have been made in different ways and out of different materials. • Explore properties of different materials. • Is it waterproof or not? • How can we make it stable and secure? • Floating and sinking. • Festivals and celebrations – Holi, Easter, Ramadan.

The questions we might investigate may be:

How can we make a structure safe and sturdy?

What is the best material to use for a house?

How can we make a raft that floats?

How were buildings (houses) made in the past?