



New Life/ Growth



Year Group: Nursery

summer 1 (Year 2 of rotation)

Characteristics of Effective Learning		
Playing and exploring – engagement	Active Learning – Motivation	Creating and thinking critically
Finding out and exploring Playing with what they know Being willing 'to have a go'	Being involved and concentrating Keeping trying Enjoying achieving what they set out to do.	Having their own ideas Making links Choosing ways of doing things

Intent, Vision & Values

This topic incorporates new life, growth and change through the exploration of the natural world. Children will use all of their senses as they learn and observe the life cycle of a plant and animals. Pupils will learn and how to take care and respect for plants and animals as they plant seeds and observe caterpillars as they transition into butterflies. Children will begin to understand time, simply, as they look at the days of the week, through focused stories. Circle time will be planned to support progression of knowledge and provide children with the opportunities to discuss and share ideas as well as ask questions. During the summer term the key focus will be on providing as many opportunities as possible for children to confidently and independently demonstrate the skills detailed below.

Communication and Language	Skills	Overview
Listening and Attention	 Pupils will maintain their attention and focus as they engage with activities. Children will understand prepositional instructions and begin to use 	The children will enjoy listening to Jasper's Beanstalk and other chosen topic books as they learn about the world around them. They will enjoy retelling the story through small world resources and use props appropriately. The role-play area will be turned into a garden centre for the children to play the role of the customer or shop worker. This role-play could also include a café



MEDIUM TERM PLANNING | UNIT OBJECTIVES

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for children to explore making food for customers and reading prepositions in language during play and and writing menus. The children will explore resources such as with activities. flowers, seed packets, gardening tools etc. Adults will model how • As children listen to topic stories they to handle props with care as they work with children in the rolewill use new vocabulary to connect their play area. The children will create simple narratives while playing ideas, explain what happens, anticipate and express their own experiences. what might happen next and recall key facts. Children will explore and reinforce their understanding of **Speaking** prepositions during small world activities, e.g. Can you put the flowers on top of the plant pot etc. As children speak they will frequently begin to use a range of tenses. The children will use their own experiences to influence role-play activities, share memories and share their understanding of Whilst pupils play, they will discuss a objects and their uses. Whilst using props, children will act out storyline or narrative to their play. their understanding of how to care and respect plants. As the children observe the growth of their cress and broad beans, they will be supported when using a range of tenses to explain the changes and life cycle. Children will plant cress at the beginning of the half term; they will care for their plant in school and will use their cress to make cress sandwiches at the end of the half term. Children will talk about the process and their likes/ dislikes.



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Personal, Social, Emotional Development	Skills	Overview
Self- Regulation	 Pupils will use their words to solve conflict and develop ways of assertiveness in play. Children will show patience when their needs cannot be instantly met. Show awareness of expectations and follow daily routines. 	Children will be supported to work alongside their peers in different areas of the classroom. Wellbeing will be a focus for the half term, with children thinking about friendships, sharing resources, acts of kindness, our feelings and the feelings of others. Children will think about what makes them feel good/ bad and when they are happiest.
Managing Self	Children will show confidence within the setting.	The children will talk about experiences of visiting garden centres and will talk about their understanding of growing plants/ seeds. The children will be able to discuss plants that they have in their own garden and what they have seen on their walk to school/ in the park. Children will talk about the character in the topic story. They will explain each step Jasper takes when planting his seed. The children will talk about what they have done on different days of the week.
Building Relationships	Children will initiate conversations and play, discussing their ideas and extending play as they create narrative.	Children will be supported to create relationships and nurture the friendships they have already built, in different areas of the classroom. The children will work in small groups and be supported to share ideas to develop play. Children will have the opportunity to form and develop friendships by playing group games.

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Physical Development	Skills	Overview
Gross Motor Skills	Children will stand momentarily on one foot/leg and hold a pose.	P:E sessions will focus on playing games; taking turns, bean bag races and obstacle courses. Children will be encouraged to experiment with different balances and movement poses as they navigate their way around an obstacle course.
Fine Motor Skills	 Children will demonstrate manipulation and control as they handle resources with care and use them appropriately. Squiggle sessions will encourage children to use anticlockwise movements, circles, vertical and horizontal lines. Children will practice their name writing using the handwriting rhymes from their phonics sessions to accurately form letters. 	Squiggle sessions will focus on large anticlockwise movement, circles, vertical and horizontal lines. Weekly mark making activities will support children to represent their ideas and assist their pencil grasp. Those children who continue to struggle with pencil grasp will take part in interventions to strengthen their dexterity. Weekly tinker table activities such as, using tweezers to pick up seeds, threading, beads on pipe cleaner beanstalks, rolling playdough beanstalks etc. will be planned to support fine motor development. Children will use name cards to practise name writing each week.

Literacy	Skills	Overview
Comprehension	Know information can be found in books and from computers.	Children will retell topic stories using repeated refrains and phrases. They may also apply this in role-play, puppet play, mark making activities and the garden centre/ cafe. All pupils will be given opportunities to ask questions and illustrate their



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		knowledge of each text. Children will look at non-fiction books about plants and seeds, exploring pictures and talking about what they know about plants and flowers.
Word Reading	Children will recognise their name cards and familiar logos.	Children will use name cards and self-registration cards to recognise their name. Children will have access topic stories in the reading area.
• Writing	 Hears and says the initial sound in words Children will write the initial sound they can hear when beginning to label work with an adult. 	There will also be opportunities for children to write freely and independently for a variety of purposes. Possibilities include writing shopping lists in the garden centre, labelling pictures to retell the Jasper and the Beanstalk story, creating a diary to show what they have done through a week, writing simple instructions for caring for a plant/ sunflower, creating menu's for the café and labels for plants in the role play area. Children will explain what they have written while discussing writing with adults.

Mathematics	Skills	Overview
• Number	When children count objects they will say one number for each item up to 3 or 4 objects and be able to compare quantities.	At the start of every maths session, children will sing number songs that involves counting in sequence and addition/subtraction. As children play counting games, they will recognise groups of objects that have more, fewer and less
Number Patterns	 As children use shapes and objects they will explore and talk about patterns. Separates a group of three or four objects in different ways, beginning to recognise that 	Comparing quantities. Numbers will be used in the role-play, small world and construction areas for children to use in independent play.
	 the total is still the same. Children will make comparisons with weight and capacity as they explore objects. Children will recall experiences in sequence. 	Children will practise identifying simple 2D shapes in different areas of the classroom. Children will use shapes appropriately in play to models and buildings. The children will use shapes in



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 Pupils will measure short periods of time 	creative activities to make sunflower pictures. The children will
simply.	begin to name and compare common 2D shapes.
	The children will use watering cans to practise talking about using capacity and comparing the volume of different containers. Children will estimate how many watering cans it will take to fill other containers. Children will record their findings. Children will use counting resources to compare small groups of objects. They will also practise subitising amounts, practising how
	to recognise small amounts without counting them.
	Children will talk about time in simple ways when reading Jasper's beanstalk. They will look at the days of the week, ordering them and creating simple explanations of what they do on each day. Children will begin to think about different times of the day, ordering events appropriately, e.g wake up, brush teeth, get dressed, go to school

Knowledge and Understanding	Skills	Overview
Past and Present	Pupils will look closely and explore similarities, differences, patterns and change as they observe caterpillars metamorphosing into butterflies.	Children will observe and discuss the changes they see in the development of caterpillars over several weeks.
The Natural World	 Comment and share their thoughts on the process of growth of plants. Children will discuss what plants and animals need to survive and demonstrate respect for them by taking care of them. 	Children will be able to identify changes over time when planting cress and sunflowers. They will talk about what they have observed their seed doing and make predictions.

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		Children will explore facts about plants and seeds, using technology to research flowers and growth over time. Children will use simple paint programs on the computer to create a picture of a flower or experience from their week.
People, Cultures and Communities	Children will talk about their experiences of planting and nurturing seedlings at school and/or with family members.	The children will talk about the plants that they are growing in school. They will relate this to plants they have observed in their garden or at the park etc. Children will talk about how plants grow and what they need to keep them healthy. Children will investigate the roots of a plant using a plastic bag to help a seed grow, the children will be able to see the roots and a shoot growing from the seed.

Expressive Arts and Design	Skills	Overview
Creating with materials	 Create simple representations of events, people and objects Children will explore texture as they construct with a variety if resources and purpose in mind. 	Children will use a variety of resources to construct and represent their ideas. Using small world resources, children will retell and create their own stories.



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Being imaginative and expressive	•	Pupils will use small world resources to introduce a storyline or narrative to play. E.g animals needing rescue falling off the table 'cliff'. Children will play with props to represent objects that are not similar. Explore and chooses particular colours to use for a purpose.	The children will select colours appropriately and mix colours to create different shades. Children will express their feelings through the colours they choose.
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Trips and Experiences	Possible Linked Texts
Children will plant seeds to grow cress and a sunflower.	Jack and the Beanstalk
Children will go on a nature walk around the school to observe	Ben's Butterfly Garden
different plants growing.	Tiny Seed
	Ten Seeds
	Oliver's vegetables
	Eddie's Garden
	Titch
	A Seed in Need
	From Seed to Sunflower
	Van Gough
	Sam's Seed
	RSE Texts
	Rainbow Fish
	Sharing a Shell



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	Elmer	
	The Colour Monster	
Assessment		
Baseline all children who are new to nursery.		
Add baseline assessment to the Nursery ENTRY database on SIMS after two weeks.		
On Entry Reports to be written after 2 weeks.		
Assessment of Intervention to assess progress of vulnerable children.		