

Our theme for this half term is  
**Growth and change**  
(Life cycles of plants and animals)



Reception  
Summer 1  
2024

**Communication and Language**  
We will be learning to:

- Understand and use new vocabulary- including **light lighter lightest shiny dull near far early**
- Talk about our learning in more detail,, such as using connectives such as; and, because, then, when.
- Listen to non-fiction information and recall some interesting facts. (E.g. facts about the life cycles of plants and animals)

**Literacy**  
We will be learning to:

- Read and write tricky red words
- Write letters correctly.
- Use our phonic knowledge to sound out words with special friends. E.g; shop, chop, that, see, play, night, snow, book, zoo, shout, boy
- Use our Fred fingers to help us identify the sounds in words, and then write these sounds.
- Read books matched to our phonic ability.
- Retrieve information from the non-fiction books.
- Write a simple sentence, using a capital letter at the beginning.
- Read what we have written.

**Mathematics**  
We will be learning to:

- Count beyond 10
- Identify odd and even numbers in the 1-10 range
- Count in 2s to 10
- Double and halve numbers in the 1-10 range.
- Length, height, weight & distance
- Subtraction
- Simple & complex patterns

**Understanding the World**  
We will be learning to:

- Sequence and talk about the life cycle of a plant
- Sequence and talk about the life cycle of a butterfly and chicken.
- Talk about seasonal changes.
- Recognise common plants and animals.
- Explore non-reversible changes
- Explore minibeasts in our environment
- Talk about & compare historical places, people & objects through stories

**Personal, Social, Emotional Development**  
We will be learning to:

- Become a confident learner
- Talk about how we can improve our work.
- Complement our friends when they have done something really well.
- Make the right choice when working together in a group
- Offer simple solutions to solve problems.
- Jigsaw focus : Changing Me

**Physical Development**  
We will be learning to:

- Forms capital letters correctly
- Form numbers correctly
- Develop a range of ball skills, including catching, throwing, kicking, bouncing, aiming.
- Ride a balance bike and two wheeled scooters

**Expressive Arts and Design**  
We will be learning to:

- Draw recognizable pictures of mini-beasts, chicks, butterflies and caterpillars and plants.
- Use loose parts to create pictures of the life cycle of a butterfly.
- Weave to make butterflies
- Use treasury tags to join parts together to make a caterpillar

### Characteristics of Effective Teaching and Learning

The characteristics of teaching and learning underpin learning and development across all areas and support children to be effective and motivated learners. Observations of how children learn are used to enhance the environment and plan future activities to extend the *children's* learning through play. The three characteristics of effective teaching and learning are:

- **Playing and exploring** - children investigate and *experience things, and 'have a go'*
- **Active learning** - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
- **Creating and thinking critically** - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things

### Stories and Songs

- The Hungry Caterpillar
- *Jasper's Beanstalk*
- The Little Red Hen
- The Ugly Duckling
- Non-Fiction books about animal life cycles e.g. Frogs, chicks, butterflies, humans
- Peepo!

### Special Events/ Visitors

- Chick experience- Watching chicks hatch from eggs.