

EYFS Topic Progression



Our curriculum is a **coherently sequenced journey** designed to meet the unique needs of our cohort. We recognise that our children arrive with varying starting points in communication; therefore, our "Golden Thread" is **Language Acquisition and Cognitive Challenge**. We use a "Handshake" model where Nursery provides the sensory and foundational "Tier 1" knowledge, and Reception builds upon this with scientific "Tier 2 and 3". Our language ladder moves from **Naming** in Nursery to **Explaining** in Reception. Our key texts act as 'mirrors and windows'. They mirror our children's own lives in Nursery and open windows to global concepts and advanced vocabulary in Reception, ensuring a secure transition to the Year 1 curriculum.

EYFS	Nursery	Reception	Progression ‘Step up’
Autumn 1			
Theme Beginnings	<i>Autumn: Senses and local environment.</i>	<i>Harvest & Healthy Bodies: Food sources and anatomy.</i>	From observation to internal systems. We move from observing leaves to understanding where food comes from and how it fuels us.
Vocabulary	<i>leaf, crunchy, chilly, squirrel, orange, brown</i>	nutrition, source, skeleton, energy, digestion	
Books	The Colour Monster – Anna Llenas The Three Little Pigs - Nicola Baxter The Leaf Thief – Alice Lemming and Nicola Slater Autumn – Allie Busby The Little Red Hen – Ronne Randall We’re Going on a Pumpkin Hunt – Goldie Hawk	Funny Bones – Janet and Allan Ahlbery Oliver’s Vegetables – Vivian French Oliver’s Fruit Salad – Vivian French The Enormous Turnip Walter the Baker – Eric Carle The Scarecrow’s Wedding – Julia Donaldson	
Autumn 2			
Theme Light	<i>Celebrations: Family birthdays/events.</i>	<i>Festivals of Light: Global cultures and physics.</i>	From personal to cultural & scientific. We move from personal celebrations to cultural ones (Diwali, Hanukkah, Christmas) and the science of shadows.
Vocabulary	<i>birthday, party, cake, candle, family</i>	Diwali, festival, transparent, shadow, reflection	
Books	The Very Helpful Hedgehog – Rosie Wellesley Lighting a Lamp – Johnny Zucker Where the Poppies Now Grow – Hilary Robinson Happy Birthday, Wonderful You – Ms Rachel The Nativity – Juliet David Dear Santa – Rod Campbell	The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark – Jill Tomlinson Rama and Sita: The Story of Diwali – Malachy Doyle and Christopher Corr The Light in the Night – Marie Voigt How to Catch a Star – Oliver Jeffers The Miracle of Hanukkah – Malachy Doyle The Nativity Story	

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		The Jolly Christmas Postman – Janet and Allan Ahlberg	
Spring 1			
Theme History	Dinosaurs: Naming and imaginative play.	Frozen Worlds: Chronology and climate.	From fantasy to historical time. We move from naming dinosaurs to chronology (Long Ago) and comparing habitats (Ice Age vs. Now).
Vocabulary	big, roar, long, teeth, spike	extinct, chronology, arctic, climate, preservation	
Books	The Colour Monster – Anna Llenas Digging for Dinosaurs – Dr Mike Goldsmith Stomp, Dinosaur Stomp – Margaret Mayo The Great Race – Emily Hiles We’re Going On a Easter Hunt – Martha Mumford	Cave Baby – Julia Donaldson Poles Apart – Jeanne Willis The Three Snow Bears – Jan Brett Lost and Found – Oliver Jeffers The Mitten – Jan Brett The Great Explorer – Chris Judge	
Spring 2			
Theme Growth	Growing: Basic needs (water/sun).	The Great Outdoors: Botany and measurement.	From nurturing to scientific inquiry. We move from planting a seed to botany (parts of a plant) and architectural building for gardens.
Vocabulary	seed, soil, water, pot, flower	germination, pollen, stem, reforestation, irrigation	
Books	Busy Spring – Nature Wakes Up – Sean Taylor When Spring Comes – Kevin Henkes Jasper’s Beanstalk – Nick Butterworth A Beans Life – Nancy Dickman	The Tiny Seed – Eric Carle Jack and the Beanstalk The Extraordinary Gardner – Sam Boughton The Bog Baby – Jeanna Willis Supertato: The Great Eggscape – Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet	
Summer 1			
Theme Care	Recycling/Bees: Noticing the world.	Planet Protectors: Sustainability and activism.	From awareness to problem-solving. We move from sorting recycling to sustainability and "Ocean Rescue" (Pollution/STEM).
Vocabulary	rubbish, bin, bee, flower, save	sustainability, pollution, conservation, ecosystem, renewable	
Books	The Colour Monster – Anna Llenas Dear Earth – Isobel Otter Somebody Swallowed Stanley – Sarah Roberts and Hannah Peck Tidy – Emily Gravett	Somebody Crunched Colin – Sarah Roberts Clean Up! – Dap Adeola Duffy’s Lucky Escape – Ellie Jackson The Blue Giant – Katie Cottle The last Tree – Emily Haworth	



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	Michael Recycle - Ellie Bethel The Honeybee – Kirsten Hall	The Girl who Planted Trees – Caryl Hart Here We Are – Oliver Jeffers	
Summer 2			
Theme Life	<i>Caterpillars:</i> Local life cycles.	<i>Wild & Wonderful:</i> Global biomes and adaptation.	From local to international biomes. We move from <i>local</i> bugs to <i>global</i> animals and their unique adaptations (Safari/Rainforest).
Vocabulary	<i>egg, tiny, crawl, butterfly, cocoon</i>	habitat, adaptation, camouflage, predator, species	
Books	Mad About Minibeasts – Giles Andreae The very Hungry Caterpillar – Eric Carle The Very Busy Spider – Eric Carle Superworm – Julia Donaldson	Handa's Surprise – Eileen Brown The Great Kapok Tree – Lynne Cherry Me... Jane – Patrick McDonnell Slowly, Slowly, Slowly, said the Sloth – Eric Carle Greta and the Giants – Zoe Tucker Where the Wild Things Are – Maurice Sendak	