



## Caring for Animals and Growing

The school rule that we will focus on is looking after our school property.

### Outdoor learning

Explore the natural world using all of my senses.

We are often outside within the school grounds or on a welly walk. Please ensure your child has suitable clothes at school (a warm and waterproof coat, hat, gloves, wellies and a change of clothes).

### Understanding the world

- Learn the Christian Easter story
- Learn about the life cycles of a plant and an animal
- Growing activities such as 'bean in a bag' experiment
- Looking at farms in the past and in the present – comparing the two.
- Learning about the environmentalist, David Attenborough
- Understanding that some animals are extinct and some are endangered.

### Expressive arts and design

- Large track painting – using welly boots to stomp and paint with
- Flower pressing
- Observational painting of flowers and animals
- Bread making
- Listening to different soundscapes and creating our own music with a range of different instruments

### Maths

**Preschool** – Exploring numbers 5,6 and 7. Introduce height, weight, mass and capacity.

**Reception** – Looking at the numbers 9 and 10. Number bonds to 10. Double numbers up to 10. Explore odd and even numbers. 3-D shapes – learning a range of names and properties of these shapes. Looking at patterns and being able to continue a pattern.

### Communication and language

Use topic vocabulary correctly (see next page) and understand the meaning of these new words.

**Preschool** – comment on events in a story and to understand that text has a meaning.

**Reception** – say what you think will happen next and to explain why something happened

### Personal, social & emotional development

Healthy me! Do we know how we keep safe and healthy? Eating habits, sleep, screen time. Learning about the importance of oral hygiene. Weekly group games to support interactions, kindness and acceptance of others. Weekly challenge to build resilience!

### Phonics

**Preschool** – Play with sounds, explore sounds in words and communicate. Nurture curiosity of letter shapes and written words. Linking sounds to letters. Use our voices to say letter sounds and explore speech sound

**Reception** – review all sounds learned so far (phase 2 and phase 3)

Reading longer words.

Learning to write tricky words.

Writing a dictated sentence independently.

Orally compose a sentence, retain it and then write it.

### Physical development

**Gross motor skills** – Achieve for All PE session on a Monday afternoon. Ball skills

Gymnastics – moving our bodies in different ways.

Using large equipment safely. Putting a simple sequence of movements together.

**Fine motor skills** – Using malleable resources to build dexterity. Dough gym, range of funky finger activities in provision – cutting, crafting, threading. Tearing technique for collage making

## Key facts

### Understanding the world

- I can list animals that are found on a farm.
- I know what tractors look like today and in the past.
- I know that some animals are extinct.
- I know who David Attenborough is.
- I know how to care for an animal.
- I know how to keep myself safe and healthy.
- I know what plants need to grow.
- I know the lifecycle of a chicken and a plant.
- I can tell you the Easter story and why it is important to Christians.

## Caring for Animals and Growing



**Farms, caring for animals, being healthy, lifecycles, growing, Easter**

### Experiences

- Class trip to Little Orchard Alpaca Farm – **12<sup>th</sup> March 2024**
- Parent planting workshop – **date tbc**
- Sunflower growing competition!

### Diary dates

- Reading club in Squirrel class every Thursday at 3.10pm
- Class photos – **21<sup>st</sup> March**
- World Book Day – **7<sup>th</sup> March**

## Vocabulary

spring	
Easter	
life cycle	
seed	
shoot	
vet	
environmentalist	
extinct	
tractors	
barn	
respect	
healthy	
grow	
oral hygiene	
screen	