



**Amazing animals**  
The school rule that we will focus on is being kind and helpful

**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**

Know scientific and geographical facts relating to our topic (see next page).

Know facts about Chinese New Year and how it is celebrated. Recognise and taste Chinese food.

Learn how to use directional language and how to give a set of instructions for a bee-bot to follow (programmable toy)

**Expressive arts and design**

Learn to sing and perform new songs, rhymes and poems.

Learn that pitch is how high or low a sound is

Recognise the art of Henri Rousseau and create art inspired by his paintings.

Weekly drawing challenges to progress our mark making skills.

Use natural resources to create animal enclosures.

Explore modelling clay to create an imaginary animal or dragon.

**Maths**

**Preschool** – Subitise to 3 and learn about the composition of numbers up to 5.

**Reception** – Subitise to 6, learn about zero

Represent, sort and order numbers up to 8 including 1 more and 1 less.

Recognise and order numerals

Explore and compare weight & height and talk about time.

**Communication and language**

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

**Preschool** – Building an understanding of language. Listening and responding appropriately.

**Reception** – To make predictions about stories and explain why something happened.

**Personal, social & emotional development**

Learn acts of kindness. How to use our words and actions to be kind to others.

Learn about what a ‘goal’ is and set out our own ones to work towards.

Learn how everyone has their own strengths and interests.

Build up perseverance and resilience when faced with a challenge

**Phonics**

**Preschool** – Learn to hear and identify environmental sounds. Explore and play with alliteration.

**Reception** Learn to read and write words containing the following phonemes - ai, ee, igh, oa, oo, oo, ar, or, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, er.

Read new tricky words – was, you, they, my, by, all, are, sure, pure.

Write more letters that are correctly formed and are recognisable.

Orally compose a simple sentence and hold it in memory before attempting to write it.

**Physical development**

**Gross motor skills** – Develop the ability to throw, catch and kick a ball and use a racket or bat.

Learn to move in different ways by navigating the large equipment in the hall, develop body control, balance and coordination with yoga poses and sequences, move freely to music

**Fine motor skills** Use one handed tools effectively with a comfortable grip such as scissors, paint brushes, pencils, chalk

Use fingers to manipulate dough and small construction pieces. Digging and planting.

## Key facts

### Understanding the world

- I know that there are different types of animals.
- I can name the different parts of an animal.
- I know how to draw different animals.
- I know what a world map looks like.
- I can name hot and cold countries in the world.
- I know the names of different countries.
- I know where different animals live.
- I know how life might be different in Africa compared to my life in England.
- I can identify some common garden birds.

## Amazing animals



### The world, animals, Africa, Australia, The Arctic, Antarctica, China

## Experiences

- An amazing animal visit to our school.
- Bird Hide – we will set up a bird hide on the school field and take part in the RSPB bird count 26-28 January.
- Enjoy a Chinese feast to celebrate Chinese New Year

## Diary dates

- Reading club in Squirrel class every Thursday at 3.10pm starting 11.01.24
- Parents evening 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February

## Vocabulary

world map



the Arctic



Antarctica



Africa



Australia



China



mammals



fish



birds



reptiles



amphibians

