

# Reception Curriculum Map for Autumn 1

## Literacy

This term in Reception, our topics include *Marvellous Me* and *Autumn*, explored through key texts such as *Ruby's Worry*, *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark*, *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*, *Can't You Sleep, Little Bear?*, and *Funnybones*. These stories spark imagination and link to children's experiences, while also supporting the EYFS Literacy goals of developing comprehension, vocabulary, and a love of books. Alongside story time, children are beginning daily phonics through *Read Write Inc. Set 1 Sounds*, learning to recognise and blend the phonemes **m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f, e, l, h, r, j, v, y, w, z, x, sh, ch, th, ng, nk**. This gives them the tools to start reading simple words with growing confidence.

## Mathematics

In Maths this term, children will explore matching, sorting and comparing, before moving on to recognising and representing numbers to 5. They will practise careful counting and begin to understand ideas like "more" and "fewer" through practical activities, games and stories. Children will also look at patterns, shapes and position through building, puzzles and outdoor play. These experiences lay the foundations for strong number sense, mathematical language and problem-solving, supporting the EYFS goal of developing confident, curious learners.

## PSED

In Personal, Social and Emotional Development this term, children are settling into school routines and learning to build positive relationships with friends and adults. We will be introducing the *Zones of Regulation* to help children recognise and talk about their feelings, and each of our key texts will be linked to this, giving stories a strong emotional connection. Alongside this, children will practise sharing, taking turns, and developing independence in looking after themselves and their belongings. These experiences support the EYFS goals of confidence, self-regulation, and forming secure, respectful relationships.

## Communication and Language

In Communication and Language this term, children will focus on developing their listening and attention skills as they take part in circle times, story sessions and small group activities. They will practise following simple instructions, joining in with songs and rhymes, and building confidence to speak in front of others. Through our key texts, children are encouraged to talk about characters and events, share their own ideas, and expand their vocabulary. These foundations support the EYFS goals of listening carefully, understanding new language, and expressing themselves clearly in different situations.

## Physical Development

In Physical Development this term, children will build confidence in moving safely and energetically, both indoors and outdoors. On Mondays, they will take part in a PE session focusing on the basics of gymnastics, such as travelling in different ways, balancing and developing body control. On Fridays, our *Nature Explorers* sessions will give children the chance to climb, build, carry and move natural objects, developing strength, coordination and awareness of the outdoor environment. Alongside this, they will begin to handle pencils, brushes and small tools with control to support fine motor skills, and practise self-care routines such as fastening coats and using cutlery. These experiences support the EYFS goals of growing strength, coordination and independence.

## Art and Design

This term, children will use our key texts as inspiration for creative play and making. For example, *Funnybones* will lead to skeleton artwork and role play, while *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* will inspire sensory art using paint, collage and natural materials to represent different settings. *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark* and *Can't You Sleep, Little Bear?* will provide opportunities for creating night sky pictures and experimenting with light and dark in art. Through songs, movement and imaginative play linked to these stories, children will develop confidence in expressing ideas and working with friends. These activities support the EYFS goals of creating with materials and being imaginative and expressive.

## Understanding the World

This term, children will begin to make sense of their own lives and the world around them. Through our topics *Marvellous Me* and *Autumn*, they will talk about themselves, their families, and how people celebrate in different ways. Outdoor learning will help them notice seasonal changes, explore natural materials, and develop curiosity about living things. These experiences support the EYFS goals of understanding past and present, recognising different people and communities, and exploring the natural world.