



Area of learning- Understanding the world

Reception

Understanding the world		
Term/ Topic	Key Vocabulary	Skills/Knowledge/Enquiry
Ongoing: (The Natural World) -Observation of weather and seasons -Observations of changes as we grow -Exploration of scientific equipment within continuous provision	Words we use when working scientifically (question, answer, observe, diagram / photograph, equipment, experiment, describe, plan, do, review, science, scientist)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are the seasons changing? What do we notice around us? How are the trees changing? • How are we changing? What can we do now that we couldn't before? How are we different to babies? • How has the weather changed? What weather do we expect at this time or year? It is warm/ cold? • Exploring ice • Exploring water evaporation • Looking at shadows • Looking at signs of new life.
(Past and present) -Use of time words throughout the day and week	Yesterday, tomorrow, this morning, this afternoon, after lunch, at the weekend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about the events of the school day. • Discussion about what children have done at the weekend/ in the holidays. • Talking about changes in own life • Watching changes across the year- what was it like earlier in the year.
(People and communities) -Our family -Our country	Family, Mum, Dad, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, grandma, grandad England, United Kingdom, West Cornforth, Durham, North East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking about their family and family events. • Discussions about our country and country events and those of other countries.
Autumn 1- All about me		
(The natural world) -Senses (sight, hearing, touch, taste, smell) -The human body	Sense, sight, touch, taste, hearing, see, hear, feel, smell, nose, eyes, skin, nerves, ear, tongue, taste buds, bitter, sweet, salty, sour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our senses • How do we see/ smell/ hear/ taste/ touch?

	Heart, lungs, brain, bones, skull, spine, fingers, toes, teeth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parts of the human body- main organs • Skeletons- What do we need skeletons for? • What are bones?
(Past and present) -Changes from birth	Change, grow, develop, body, past	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have we changed since we were a baby? • What were times like when our Grandparents were babies?
(People and Communities) -Our families and who we live with	Family, Mum, Dad, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, grandma, grandad England, United Kingdom, West Cornforth, Durham, North East	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking about where we live • Talking about our families and who we live with.
Autumn 2 - Autumn/ Christmas		
-Changes in leaves -Nocturnal animals	Leaves, die, orange, brown, tree, autumn, winter, Hibernation, nocturnal, diurnal,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do leaves fall down? • Why do leaves change colour? • How is the weather changing? • Which animals hibernate? • Why do animals hibernate? • Which animals are nocturnal? • Facts about owls.
(Past and present) -Remembrance Day	Remembrance, war, soldiers, died, poppy Jesus, Bethlehem Christmas, past, celebrate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is Remembrance Day • Discussions about WW1 and WW2 • The birth of Jesus • How did our parents/grandparents celebrate Christmas when they were little?
(People and communities) -Diwali -Christmas	Diwali, Sikh, Hindu, festival of light Christians, Christmas, Jesus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who celebrates Diwali? • How is Diwali celebrated? • Where in the world is Diwali celebrated? • How do Christians celebrate Christmas? • Where in the world is Christmas celebrated?

Spring 1- Space		
(The natural world) -Looking at planets -Looking at the moon	Space, star, planet, dwarf planet, moon, phases, comet, rocket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can we find out about the moon? • What do planets look like? • What is the order of the planets? • Can humans live anywhere else? • Looking at moon phases and how the moon's appearance changes. • A place for Pluto- story
(Past and present) -What is a year?	Year, 365 days Neil Armstrong, land, moon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the earth going around the sun- what happens in a year. Changes of seasons. • Who was the first man on the moon?
(People and Communities) -What can we see?	Observe, space, see, telescope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk about what we can observe of space from Earth
Spring 2- Pirates		
(The natural world) -Floating and sinking -Waterproof materials	Float, sink, heavy, light, big, small, water, Waterproof, soak, wet, dry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we make a pirate ship that floats? • Looking at how a message in a bottle floats. • Can we make an outfit for a pirate to keep them dry? Looking at waterproof materials.
(Past and present) -Pirates in the past	Pirate, Blackbeard, Long John Silver	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When were pirates alive? • Tales of real life pirates • Are pirates alive today? • The life of Jesus- when did he live?
(People and communities) -Easter	Easter, egg, lent, cross, Christians, church, Good Friday, Easter Monday, resurrection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do Christians celebrate Easter? • Where in the world celebrates Easter? • How has our environment changed during Spring?
Summer 1- Life Cycles		

<p>(The natural world) -Life cycle of a butterfly -Planting a bean -Looking at sunflowers</p>	<p>Butterfly, caterpillar, pupa, cocoon, chrysalis, egg Tadpole, frog, frogspawn Bean, seed, compost, grow, stalk, leaves, petals, life cycle</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observing changes to the school caterpillars, looking at the different stages. • Talking about changes to tadpoles. • Planting seeds and watching how they grow. • Looking at the parts of a plant. •
<p>(Past and present) -Life cycle of plants and animals</p>	<p>Plants, change, develop, cycle, old, new, young, old, die Village, area, school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do plants and animals change? • What is the life cycle of a human? • How has our school/ village changed?
<p>(People and communities) -Looking at the world and different places to live</p>	<p>Desert, mountains, sea, coast, jungle, rainforest</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at different parts of the world e.g. deserts and talking about which plants could grow there.
<p>Summer 2- Traditional tales</p>		
<p>(The natural world) -The three little pigs- making structures</p>	<p>Structure, strong, material, soft, hard, tough, rough Magnet, attracted, repel, push, pull.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can we investigate building materials and how suitable they are? • Investigating magnets and magnetic items.
<p>(Past and present) -Looking back over the school year</p>	<p>Change, grow, mature</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How have we changed since starting Reception? • What was school life like in the past?
<p>(People and communities) -Preparation for Year 1</p>	<p>Adult, support, help</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who has worked with me this year? • Who will work with me next year?