

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- Taking turns and sharing
- Develop concentration & perseverance
- Respecting each other through circle time activities
- Respecting our property

Literacy

- Listen to and join in with related songs, stories & rhymes - The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The Very lazy ladybird, The Very Busy Spider, Superworm, the tiny seed.
- Self-portraits (new starters)
- Recognise and trace/copy/write own name
- Talking about our favourite story characters
- Listening to stories and retelling them in performance and drawings
- Mark making on a range of surfaces - mud, fences, walls, rolls of paper etc
- Labelling and story writing/scribing

Understanding the World

- Changes in the garden - growth/decay
- Planting seeds, looking at different seeds
- Planting potatoes, carrots, sunflowers (healthy eating link for next half term focus)
- Talk about Spring flowers and different types of flowers/plants
- Talking about what animals we find in the garden (what they look like, where they live and why, what they eat)
- Recognising and naming mini beasts
- How can we look after mini beasts (making mini beast mansion)
- Watch Butterflies grow (looking at life cycle of a real mini beast)
- Learn about the life cycle of a frog

Communication & Language

- Explore seasonal vocabulary, rhymes & stories- which is our favourite and why
- Copy rhythms/rhymes
- Make up nonsense rhymes
- Making up our own stories
- Asking and understanding why and how questions
 - talking about our favourite stories; investigating

Summer 1 - Spring, Growing and Mini beasts



Child-Led Topics and Activities

Other topics and activities may be used in response to children's interests. All adult-led topics may be adapted or removed depending on the responses of the children. Core Mathematical and Communication and Language skills will be central to all adult led activities and adult intervention within child initiated learning.

Physical Development

- Doing exercise and noticing effects- cosmic yoga, dancing, running outside
- Practise fine motor skills - threading leaves (mini beasts) with caterpillars, making spiders, sorting mini beasts
- Cutting along lines and round shapes- mini beasts
- Practice cycling, scooting
- Making tissue daffodils- scrunch/rip to develop fine motor skills

Mathematics

- Count resources, people, plant pots, garden tools, mini beasts
- Recognise numicon pieces
- Talking about height (vocab)
- Weight vocabulary- comparing weight of different toys/objects
- Size- Ordering plant pots/different mini beasts in size order (talking about the difference between vocabulary for "mini" and "mega" beast)
- Order irrelevance- knowing amounts of objects stay the same when changed order
- Mini beast sorting- "Has wings/has not got wings"

Expressive Arts and Designs

- Performance of stories/own stories
- Making mini beast mansion with varying materials- talking about which would be most suitable materials and why
- Colour mixing - butterflies and self-service paint
- Making 3D mini beasts using junk modelling materials- Thinking creatively for a purpose
- Decorating pebble mini beasts
- Re-creating Van Gogh's Blossom tree (Spring link)
- Making Spring collages (based on artists)