



I wonder about... People

Reception Autumn 1 2026



Communication and Language

Take part in speaking and listening games
Discuss what they want to be in the future
Respond to stories using simple phrases.
Listen to my friends and adults in the class
Talk about what makes me unique
Tell others about my family and people who are special to me.
Listen to new words and try to use them in my play
Join in nursery rhymes and repeated phrases in well-known stories
Develop discussion with adults and peers
Follow routine one part instructions
Retell stories with pictures, props and puppets
Ask simple questions of people who work in the school and visitors with babies

Physical Development

How exercise affects my body, the changes I see and how it keeps me healthy
Learning routines for PE
Play starting and stopping on signal games
Explore ways of travelling around the space safely
Practise rolling, catching and throwing equipment with control
Fine motor skills activities to develop control and handwriting - drawing horizontal/vertical lines, circles and my name
Using tools to join and build models
Practise use of tools e.g. scissors, fork, spoon

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Building relationships with adults and peers including using listening skills
Valuing myself and respecting others
Talking in small groups
Formulate positive class rules together - discuss why we have them and how we can keep them
Explore stories about caring for each other
Discuss and describe important people at home, in school and in the community
Play games to practise turn-taking, co-operating and patience
Developing independence to choose activities or complete tasks e.g. put on coat
Find out what makes a good friend
Demonstrating good practise when we wash our hands and know why we do it

Literacy

Flying start with Letters and Sounds phonics programme - learning letter sounds and formation
Recognising some tricky words
Oral blending CVC sounds into words
Listening games to tune into sounds
Using names for matching, tracing and writing activities
Handwriting patterns and skills
Responding to books, fiction and non-fiction, poetry and rhymes
Explore mark making including drawing pictures and writing my name
Finding out how to handle books carefully, enjoy looking at the pictures and words
Reading their name, signs and labels for classroom areas and resources

Maths

Join in with number songs and rhymes
Play number games and activities, Introduce NUMICON shapes
Compare size of hands/feet/body with a friend
Compare amounts, sort and match using different resources
Creating patterns
Number and shape hunt around the school
Measure and compare heights using large plastic bricks
Recognise shapes and early numbers
Counting verbally to 10 and objects to 5
Recognising amount of small group of objects without counting them

Understanding the world

Learning about different cultures and beliefs
Identify changes from baby to child to adult
Celebrating special events - Birthdays, Harvest festival, Black History Month
Share their observations of seasonal changes
Using senses to explore inside and outside our classroom. Talk about differences and changes they see.
Finding our way around the class and the school.
Build up familiarity of layout of these areas
Identify ways of looking after our environment
Taking part in simple cooking activities and food preparation
Sharing personal history, family & special events
Discussing about and talking to people who work in school and community
Enjoy visits from new people including babies/toddlers, "people who help us" in our community

Expressive Arts and Design

Exploring portraits and creating their own, talking about parts of face and how they are similar/different to our friends
Exploring different media with senses
Identify colours that match
Joining in recognisable songs and rhymes
Clapping rhythms in own name, simple rhythmic songs, use body percussion
Respond to music with movement
Role play family/people in community
Explore different musical instruments and create rhythms and patterns
Use objects in pretend play e.g. act out stories with puppets or small world
Build with a purpose in mind and sharing what they have made with others