

Reception – Spring 2

In Spring 2, we will be exploring the books 'The Tiny Seed' by Eric Carle and 'I Will Not Ever Never Eat a Tomato' by Lauren Child. These stories will help your child to engage with retelling familiar stories in their own words, fostering their understanding of narrative structure and sequencing. We will also delve into the concept of advice leaflets and narrative writing and how we can write for different purposes.

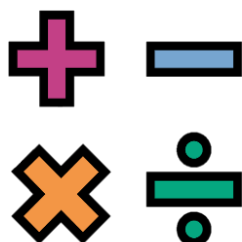
Literacy



In 'The Tiny Seed', a little seed embarks on an incredible journey through the seasons. It faces many challenges but ultimately grows into a beautiful flower. This story will help children understand the life cycle of plants and the importance of perseverance.

'I Will Not Ever Never Eat a Tomato' is an amusing story featuring Lola, a picky eater, who is convinced by her imaginative brother Charlie to try different foods. Through creative storytelling, children will learn about trying new things and the value of a positive attitude towards food.

Maths



In Spring 2, we will begin by focusing on the numbers 9 and 10. We will learn to recognise, count and understand these numbers. We will develop our understanding of number comparison by comparing numbers up to 10. We will use mathematical language such as 'more than', 'less than' and 'equal to' to describe our findings. We'll delve into number bonds to 10, helping us understand how different numbers can be combined to make 10.

This foundational concept will support our future understanding of addition and subtraction. We will also continue to explore the concepts of 3D shapes, patterns and spatial awareness, through activities such as using maps, positional languages and relating it to the world around us.

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Communication and Language



In Spring 2, we will introduce the children to new words through stories, songs and discussions. The children will engage in activities that explore the meanings and sounds of these words, helping them to pronounce and use them correctly. This will include phonics-based activities, storytelling sessions and interactive discussions that encourage children to ask questions and learn new vocabulary in context. We will use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences during play. Role-playing activities, such as setting up a pretend shop or a home corner, will provide opportunities for children to use descriptive language, negotiate roles, and communicate their ideas. This helps children develop their social and communication skills, as well as their creativity and imagination.

Expressive Arts and Design



In Spring 2, we will focus on various artistic techniques and the famous artist Claude Monet. We'll introduce the children to the work of Monet, particularly his beautiful series of paintings featuring water lilies. They'll learn about Monet's use of colour, light and brushstrokes, and how these elements define the Impressionist movement. Through stories and discussions, children will gain an understanding of Monet's artistic style and his impact on the art world. We'll delve into different painting and printing techniques, allowing the children to express themselves through various mediums. The children will have the opportunity to work extensively with watercolour paints, exploring how to control the flow of paint and water to create different effects. They'll experiment with blending colours and creating washes to bring their artistic ideas to life.

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Personal Development



This half-term, we will be supporting the children's growth mindset by encouraging them to persevere and celebrate their efforts. Through a variety of activities, including puzzle-solving, collaborative projects and positive reinforcement, the children will learn that challenges are opportunities for growth.

We will introduce various strategies to help our approach and overcome challenges. These include problem-solving techniques, deep-breathing exercises and positive self-talk. We'll be learning to identify and express a range of emotions. We'll use tools like emotion cards, storybooks and role-play scenarios to help children articulate how they feel.

As part of our PSHE, we will also learn about the importance of making healthy lifestyle choices and explore how healthy choices contribute to our overall well-being.

Physical Development



This half-term, we will be focusing on developing physical skills and abilities, with a special emphasis on gymnastics. We will introduce the children to the basic elements of gymnastics, helping them build strength, flexibility and coordination. We will explore balancing on different parts of the body, using equipment like balance beams and mats. The children will work on static balances (holding a position) and dynamic balances (moving and balancing), which will help develop their core strength and stability. Children will practice different types of jumps, including straight jumps, tuck jumps and star jumps. They will learn the importance of a controlled take-off and safe landing, which will help them develop their leg strength and coordination. Alongside gymnastics, we will also engage in a variety of general physical activities to promote overall fitness and well-being.

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Understanding the World



In Spring 2, we will be observing and discussing the changes that occur during spring. Children will learn about the different signs of spring, such as blossoming flowers, new leaves, and the return of certain animals. They'll explore how the changing seasons affect the environment and our daily lives. We will be building on our Literacy learning for the text 'The Tiny Seed' by learning about the life cycle of plants. We'll investigate how seeds grow into plants, what plants need to survive, and the different parts of a plant. This will include hands-on activities like planting seeds and watching them grow. Inspired by our other Literacy text, 'I Will Not Ever Never Eat a Tomato', we'll discuss the importance of trying new foods and maintaining a balanced diet. We will learn about different types of food, where they come from, and how they help our bodies stay healthy.