



Reception Medium Term Planning

Topic: Falling from the Sky



Throughout this topic, children will explore the natural world around them and discover the changes that take place within each season. They will use their senses to explore objects linked to various seasons. They will discuss and compare similarities and differences between the animals we might see around this time of year. As we explore different climates, we will understand changes take place in the natural world and the impact this has on wildlife.

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| What will we know, do and understand? | Children will know the seasons of Autumn and Winter. They will observe the changes in the environment and explore the different natural materials that occur throughout these seasons. They will learn about and create habitats and understand why some animals hibernate. |
| Key vocabulary | Tier 1: autumn winter leaves trees brown red orange pumpkin acorn sunflower scarecrow cloud rain wind snow ice squirrel owl bear hedgehog nuts chestnut mushroom conker snowflake Tier 2: seasons months weather nature spiky crunch rustle crumble blustery foliage icicles freeze shelter Tier 3: equinox migration hibernation nocturnal festival harvest habitat ripen temperature degrees thermometer |
| Inquiry Questions | Can you use your senses to explore the world? How do climates differ? Why do changes in weather happen? How do people make changes to the environment? How do animals care for themselves and their young in cold weather? What is hibernation? Who hibernates and why? |



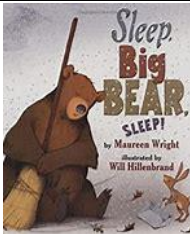

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| Date W/C | 3/11/25- 7/11/25 | 10/11/25 - 14/11/25 | 17/11/25 - 21/11/25 | 24/11/25 - 28/11/25 | 1/12/25 - 5/12/25 | 8/12/25 - 12/12/25 | 15/12/25 - 19/12/25 |
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| Wow Moments | Phonics Workshop for parents Diwali | Anti Bullying Week Remembrance Day | Seasonal walk around the school grounds Enterprise Week Winter Fayre | Building Habitats Wreath making workshop with parents | Winter Fayre | Preparing for christmas | Nativity Hannukah |
| Parental Engagement | <p>Parent's Invited to school to watch the nativity</p> <p>Parent evenings - meeting with parent's afterschool to discuss what children are learning and how parents can support them at home.</p> <p>Updating website with topic newsletters to ensure parents know what their child is learning</p> <p>Parents are invited to wreath making workshop.</p> <p>Parents invited to hibernation workshop.</p> | | | | | | |

| Prime Areas of Learning | |
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| Communication and Language Listening, Attention and Understanding | Listen carefully to rhymes and songs, paying attention to how they sound. Learn rhymes, poems and songs. Learn new vocabulary. Retell a story, once they have developed a deep familiarity with the text, some as exact repetition and some in their own words. |
| Communication and Language Speaking | Articulate ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences. Ask questions to find out more and to check they understand what has been said to them. |

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| Personal, Social and Emotional Development Self-Regulation | Identify and moderate their own feelings socially and emotionally. Express their feelings and consider the feelings of others. (Discuss how animals feel when foraging for food for hibernation) |
| Personal, Social and Emotional Development Managing Self | Increasingly follow rules without adult reminders and understand why they are important. Able to dress/undress independently. Learn how to use a knife and fork. Talk about safety for people and animals on bonfire night. |
| Personal, Social and Emotional Development Building Relationships | Begin to understand how others may feel. Express their feelings and consider the feelings of others. Build constructive and respectful relationships. Learn about charity and helping others (Children in Need). |

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| Physical Development Gross Motor skills | Revise and refine fundamental movement skills they have already acquired: rolling; crawling; walking; jumping; running; hopping; skipping and climbing. Know and talk about different factors that support their overall health and wellbeing. |
| Physical Development Gross Motor skills | Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently, safely and confidently Suggested tools: pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons. |

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| Literacy Key texts |  | Recipe writing for pumpkin soup. |  | Writing lists of signs of autumn/winter depending on weather. |  | Design hibernation dens and label materials. |  |
| Literacy Comprehension | Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary. Bonfire Night poetry. Retelling stories discussed during literacy and story time. | | | | | | |
| Literacy Word Reading | Read individual letters by saying sounds for them. Blend sounds into words, so they can read short words made up of known letter sound correspondences. Read a few common exception words. Role play words | | | | | | |
| Literacy Phonics | By the end of autumn 2, children in reception will read all Set 1 single letter sounds and blend sounds into words orally | | | | | | |
| Literacy Writing | Form lower-case letters correctly. Spell words by identifying the sounds and then writing the sound with letter/s. Name writing | | | | | | |

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| Mathematics Number | Children will recognise different representations of the number 6 (five frame, dice etc) Children will understand that even if the order or arrangement changes the number stays the same. Children will use part-whole models to represent two groups and the bonds to 5. |
| Mathematics Numerical Pattern | Children will talk about 2D and 3D shapes using information language such as: sides, corners, straight, flat, round. Children will be able to find one more and one less than a number within 5 in the context of a first, then, now story. Children will talk about patterns in environment and continue copy and creating repeating patterns. |
| Mathematics Arc Maths | Numbers within 6 Addition and subtraction within 6 Measure Shape and sorting Numbers within 10 Calendar and time |
| Mathematics Vocabulary | One more, one less, order, count, part, whole, plus, altogether, subtract, minus, big, small compare, capacity, cube, cuboid, cylinder, sphere, cone, 2D, 3D, square, triangle, circle, rectangle, pentagon straight, describe, curved, flat, face, vertex/vertices, corner, difference, direction, distance, equal, full, empty, half full/empty, nearly full/empty, measure, long, short, tall, tallest, lonest, shortest, length, heavy, light, order, size, sort, roll, time, season, month, day, calendar, week. |

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| Understanding the World Past and Present | Children will look at images of familiar settings and seasons, from recent times and the past, and discuss similarities and differences that they notice. Children will explore birthdays and discuss how we change as we grow older. |
| Understanding the World People, Cultures and Communities | Children will explore environment changes and develop an understanding of the season winter, using books and exploring the outdoors. Children will compare environments in different regions of the world (Polar regions/Antarctica) (Whiteboard globe/draw and follow a map of Antarctica for role play recreation of Shackleton expedition/atlases). Recognise why and how life is similar/different in other countries- Polar regions Children will explore other cultures through our multi-faith week. Children will learn about Jesus and the story of Miracles. Children will learn about Christmas in our country, and Christmas around the world, making comparisons. Children will take part in the Nativity, taking on the role of the people they have been learning about. Children will use Beebots to create a simple algorithm, to create a route on the floor map. |

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| Understanding the World The Natural World | <p>Children will talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice.</p> <p>Children will understand how they need to care for the natural environment and all living things.</p> <p>Children will understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.</p> <p>Children will learn about how our environment is different to polar regions.</p> <p>Children will learn about pollution of the ocean.</p> <p>Children will learn about Arctic/Antarctic animals and how they are different to the animals we have in the UK.</p> <p>Children will explore changes in states of matter (water/ice), along with other reflective materials.</p> <p>Children will begin to make predictions and ask questions.</p> |
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| Expressive Arts and Design Creating with Materials | <p>Children will create Harvest Art (printing/collage).</p> <p>Children will draw an Autumn tree. Use drawings to tell a story-Draw a story map for Goodbye Autumn Hello Winter.</p> <p>Children will create Diwali patterns-chalk.</p> <p>Children will draw with increasing complexity and detail (Seasonal Trees).</p> <p>Children will explore colour and colour mixing- Autumn leaf art, leaf printing.</p> <p>Children will creating art using natural materials.</p> <p>Firework Art (paint effects) Remembrance Day art - (drawing/paint/collage/loose parts) Christmas craft.</p> | |
| Expressive Arts and Design Bring Imaginative and Expressive | <p>Children will remember and sing entire songs (Nativity).</p> <p>Children will develop storylines in their pretend play when retelling stories.</p> <p>Children will learn and sing autumn and winter songs recognise mood, character, contrast & changes.</p> <p>Children will explore bonfire night and christmas Poetry.</p> | |
| Kapow Music and Art | Celebration music | Painting and mixed media: Paint my world |
| Artist | Jackson Pollock | |

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| RE | Prophecy and Promise |
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Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes
Ready Teddy?