



Curriculum Overview and Progression for Understanding the World  
Past & Present, People, Cultures & Community and The Natural World

Early Years Curriculum

Key Concepts / Progression of Skills

Prior Learning

People, Culture & Communities	The Natural World
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I am curious about people and show interest in stories about myself and my family.</li> <li>I enjoy pictures and stories about myself my family and other people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can explore objects by linking together different approaches: shaking, hitting, looking, feeling, tasting, mouthing, pulling, turning and poking.</li> <li>I can remember where objects belong.</li> <li>I can match parts of objects that fit together (e.g. puts lid on a teapot).</li> </ul>

Nursery

People, Culture & Communities	The Natural World
<p><b>During Nursery (Autumn Spring)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can recognise my own immediate family and relations.</li> <li>I can, in pretend play, imitate everyday actions and events from own family and cultural background, e.g. making and drinking tea.</li> <li>I can see my new friends have similarities and differences that connect them to, and distinguish them from, others.</li> <li>Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history.</li> <li>Show interest in different occupations.</li> <li>Continue to develop positive attitudes about the differences between people.</li> </ul> <p><b>End of Nursery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can show interest in the lives of people who are familiar to me.</li> <li>I can remember and talk about significant events in my own experience.</li> <li>I can recognise and describe special times or events for family or friends.</li> <li>I can start to show an interest in different occupations and ways of life.</li> </ul>	<p><b>During Nursery (Autumn Spring)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can play with small-world models such as a farm, a garage or a train track.</li> <li>Explore and talk about different forces they can feel.</li> <li>I can notice features of objects in the environment</li> <li>Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice.</li> <li>Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials.</li> <li>Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced</li> <li>Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties. or seen in photos.</li> <li>Plant seeds and care for growing plants.</li> <li>Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.</li> <li>Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.</li> <li>Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.</li> </ul> <p><b>End of Nursery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can ask questions about aspects of my familiar world such as the place where I live or the natural world.</li> <li>I can talk about some of the things I have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects.</li> <li>I can talk about why things happen and how things work.</li> <li>I can start to develop an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time.</li> <li>I can show care and concern for living things and the environment</li> </ul>

Reception

Past & Present	People, Culture & Communities	The Natural World
<p><b>(Autumn Spring)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can remember and talk about significant events in my own experience.</li> <li>I can recognise and describe special times or events for family or friends.</li> <li>Compare and contrast characters from stories, including figures from the past.</li> <li>Comment on images of familiar situations in the past.</li> <li>Understand that some places are special to members of their community.</li> </ul> <p><b>ELG: Past and Present</b> Children at the expected level of development will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Talk about the lives of the people around them and their roles in society;</li> <li>Know some similarities and differences between things in the past and now, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;</li> <li>Understand the past through settings, characters and events encountered in books read in class and storytelling.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(Autumn Spring)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can show interest in the lives of people who are familiar to me.</li> <li>I can talk about some of the things I have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects.</li> <li>Draw information from a simple map.</li> <li>Recognise some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries.</li> <li>Recognise that people have different beliefs and celebrate special times in different ways.</li> <li>I can start to show an interest in different occupations and ways of life.</li> <li>Talk about members of their immediate family and community.</li> <li>Name and describe people who are familiar to them.</li> </ul> <p><b>ELG: People, Culture and Communities</b> Children at the expected level of development will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories, non-fiction texts and maps;</li> <li>Know some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;</li> <li>Explain some similarities and differences between life in this country and life in other countries, drawing on knowledge from stories, non-fiction texts and – when appropriate – maps.</li> </ul>	<p><b>(Autumn Spring)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can ask questions about aspects of my familiar world such as the place where I live or the natural world.</li> <li>I can talk about why things happen and how things work.</li> <li>I can start to develop an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time.</li> <li>I can show care and concern for living things and the environment</li> <li>Explore the natural world around them.</li> <li>Describe what they see, hear and feel whilst outside.</li> <li>Recognise some environments that are different to the one in which they live.</li> <li>Understand the effect of changing seasons on the natural world around them.</li> </ul> <p><b>ELG: The Natural World</b> Children at the expected level of development will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants;</li> <li>Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;</li> <li>Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.</li> </ul>