

Preschool Curriculum Map

In Preschool, planning will remain flexible and responsive to children's interests, developmental needs and fascinations. Learning opportunities will be adapted to support children's curiosity, play and emerging skills.

Characteristics of Learning:

Playing and exploring – Engagement: Finding out and exploring, playing with what they know, being willing to 'have a go'

Active learning – Motivation: Being involved and concentrating, Keeping trying, enjoying achieving what they set out to do

Creating and thinking critically – Thinking: Having their own ideas, making links, choosing ways to do things



	Autumn 1 – 7 weeks	Autumn 2 – 8 weeks	Spring 1 – 6 weeks	Spring 2 – 6 weeks	Summer 1 – 5 weeks	Summer 2 – 7 weeks
Possible Themes	Me & My World 	Celebrations & Traditions 	Nursery rhymes & Traditional Tales 	Wild Animals 	On the Move 	Big Adventures 
The Big Question	Who am I and where do I belong?	How do people celebrate special times?	How do stories and rhymes come alive?	Who lives in the wild?	How do things move?	Where will our adventures take us?
Interests/Lines of Enquiry These themes may be adapted at various points to allow for children's interests to flow through the provision	Starting preschool Routines Feelings Friendships Family Homes My body Senses Autumn changes	Celebrations and special times Family traditions Birthdays and special memories Light and dark Bonfire Night Diwali Christmas Winter changes	Favourite nursery rhymes Story characters and settings Traditional tales Sequencing stories Puppets and storytelling Rhyming words and repeated refrains Winter to spring changes	Jungles Safari animals Habitats Animal babies Minibeasts Life cycles Caring for animals	Transport Journeys Maps Wheels Road safety Local area People who travel Boats, trains & planes	Exploring outdoors Treasure maps Sea creatures Camping adventures Summer Water play
Cultural capital and enrichment	Autumn walk Family photos Library visit Harvest	Baking Celebration experiences Christmas crafts Seasonal walks	Storytelling day Puppet theatre trip Baking Rhyme time	Animal visitor Bug hunt Planting	Wheels day Transport walk	Picnic Sports day Treasure hunt Pettit's Visit?
Roleplay areas	Home corner Baby clinic Family home	Bakery Celebration café Wrapping station	Story cottage Puppet theatre Bakery	Safari park Vets Animal rescue	Bus station Garage Travel agents	Campsite Pirate ship Explorer camp
Key texts	The Colour Monster Full, Full, Full of Love Owl Babies All Are Welcome Only One You	Binny's Diwali Kipper's Birthday That's Not My Reindeer The Christmas Story Peppa's Diwali	Humpty Dumpty Twinkle Twinkle Incy Wincy Spider Five Little Ducks Hickory Dickory Dock	Rumble in the Jungle Walking Through the Jungle Dear Zoo Giraffes Can't Dance Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what	The Train Ride Naughty Bus Duck in the Truck We All Go Travelling By Mrs Armitage on Wheels	Handa's Surprise The Everywhere Bear We're Going on a Bear Hunt Commotion in the Ocean The Train Ride

	My hair Hello Autumn	The Jolly Christmas Postman Ray	Miss Polly Had a Dolly Jack and Jill Goldilocks The Three Little Pigs Little Red Riding Hood The Enormous Turnip The Little Red Hen	do you see? Monkey Puzzle The Very Hungry Caterpillar Tadpoles Promise	Emma Jane's Aeroplane The Hundred Decker Bus We catch the bus	Once upon a Journey Masie goes camping
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Building relationships with adults and peers	Talking about what makes us special	Building confidence to speak in groups	Developing confidence to share ideas	Learning about keeping safe	Learning about similarities and differences
Self-regulation	Learning classroom routines	Learning about similarities and differences	Sharing ideas during role play	Playing cooperatively with others	Taking turns during games and role play	Talking about different families and communities
Managing Self	Exploring feelings and emotions	Building confidence in group activities	Learning to take turns in games and storytelling	Learning to care for living things	Building confidence to share experiences	Developing confidence to try new experiences
Building Relationship	Learning to take turns	Taking turns and sharing	Developing perseverance through challenges	Talking about feelings through stories	Playing cooperatively	Cooperation and sharing ideas
	Beginning to play alongside and with others	Talking about feelings linked to celebrations	Playing cooperatively with others	Building resilience when trying new activities	Developing independence in daily routines	Celebrating what makes us unique
	Developing confidence in a new environment	Developing independence in routines	Talking about feelings through stories	Developing independence during routines	Talking about feelings during journeys and new experiences	Reflecting on memories
Physical Development	Developing gross motor skills outdoors	Fine motor activities linked to celebrations (threading, decorating, wrapping)	Action songs and movement rhymes	Moving like different animals	Large movement activities	Exploring outdoors
Gross Motor Skills	Climbing, balancing, running and jumping	Using scissors with increasing control	Fine motor activities linked to story making	Obstacle courses inspired by habitats	Obstacle courses linked to journeys	Fine motor activities
Fine Motor Skills	Fine motor activities (threading, playdough, tweezers)	Exploring movement through music and dancing	Building and creating story settings	Fine motor activities (threading, tweezers, playdough animals)	Fine motor activities (construction, threading, tool use)	Water play and sensory
	Beginning to hold mark-making tools with increasing control	Outdoor balancing, climbing and movement	Dancing and movement to nursery rhymes	Developing pencil control through drawing patterns	Mark making tracks, roads and maps	Mark making using large and small movements
	Toileting and handwashing routines	Developing self-care and hygiene routines	Developing pencil and tool control	Outdoor movement	Outdoor balancing and climbing	Developing independence and self-care
			Gross motor development outdoors	Developing self-care skills	Developing coordination	

Communication and Language	Settling into routines and listening to adults	Learning vocabulary linked to celebrations and festivals	Joining in with repeated phrases and refrains	Learning new vocabulary linked to animals and habitats	Learning new vocabulary linked to transport and travel	Learning vocabulary linked to adventures and places
Listening, attention and understanding	Learning new vocabulary linked to classroom routines	Joining in with repeated phrases and familiar stories	Retelling familiar stories using props	Talk about favourite animals and why	Talking about journeys and experiences	Talking about holidays, journeys and experiences
Speaking	Following simple instructions	Beginning to talk about experiences at home	Learning and using story language	Listening to and join in with story language	Listening to stories and joining in with repeated phrases	Listening to stories from different places and cultures
	Joining in with songs and familiar rhymes	Following simple two-step instructions	Listening carefully during story times	Begin to answer questions about books and experiences	Asking simple questions	Beginning to ask questions about the world
	Talking about themselves and their families	Asking simple questions	Beginning to talk about characters and events	Following instructions during activities	Following instructions during games and activities	Using talk during imaginative play
	Beginning to answer simple questions	Retelling familiar events in simple sentences	Using talk during imaginative play	Using talk during imaginative play		Joining in with repeated phrases and storytelling
Literacy	Key Focus: Books, rhyme and talk Children will:	Key Focus: Story language, rhyme and celebrations Children will:	Key Focus: Storytelling, rhyme and repetition Children will:	Key Focus: Story language and information books Children will:	Key Focus: Stories, journeys and information texts Children will:	Key Focus: Stories, adventures and experiences Children will:
	Handle books carefully	Join in with repeated refrains	Retell familiar stories with support	Talk about favourite animals and characters	Join in with repeated refrains	Join in with repeated refrains
	Begin to understand print carries meaning	Begin to talk about characters and events	Begin to sequence simple events	Begin to talk about story events	Talk about journeys and vehicles	Talk about characters and settings
	Join in with repeated phrases	Continue recognising their name	Recognise familiar book features	Enjoy non-fiction texts about animals	Enjoy books about transport	Explore books about different places and communities
	Talk about familiar stories	Enjoy sharing books with adults and peers	Enjoy rhyme and repeated language	Recognise familiar words and pictures in books	Begin to talk about events in stories	Begin to retell familiar events
	Recognise their name		Begin to talk about favourite books and characters		Recognise familiar signs and symbols	Enjoy sharing favourite stories with peers
Mark Making	Mystery marks	Making marks linked to celebrations	Story maps	Animal patterns and prints	Drawing roads and tracks	Treasure maps
	Large movements and patterns	Drawing fireworks and patterns	Drawing favourite characters	Drawing favourite animals	Creating transport maps	Drawing holidays and journeys
	Drawing circles and lines	Circular and zig-zag movements	Marks linked to rhymes and stories	Large-scale animal movement marks	Ticket writing and symbols	Representing ideas through pictures
	Giving meaning to marks	Beginning to give meaning to drawings	Large-scale mark making	Begin observational drawings	Large-scale chalk mark making outdoors	Large-scale outdoor mark making
	Beginning to draw faces and family members	Exploring early name marks	Giving meaning to drawings	Giving meaning to marks and pictures	Drawing favourite vehicles	
		Decorating cards, invitations, gift tags	Beginning to represent stories through pictures	Exploring marks in sensory materials	Giving meaning to marks	Giving meaning to marks

Phonics	Phase 1 Focus Environmental sounds Instrumental sounds Body percussion Rhythm and rhyme	Phase 1 Focus Rhythm and rhyme Alliteration Voice sounds Environmental sounds Instrumental sounds	Phase 1 Focus Rhythm and rhyme Alliteration Voice sounds Oral blending and segmenting Environmental sounds	Phase 1 Focus Alliteration Voice sounds Oral blending and segmenting Environmental sounds Rhythm and rhyme	Phase 1 Focus Oral blending and segmenting Alliteration Voice sounds Rhythm and rhyme Environmental sounds	Phase 1 Focus Oral blending and segmenting Alliteration Voice sounds Rhythm and rhyme Environmental sounds
Mathematics	Sorting and matching objects Exploring colours Comparing size Counting through songs and play Recognising simple patterns Exploring positional language	Sorting and grouping objects Comparing size and quantity Exploring repeating patterns Counting through songs and celebrations Exploring shape through wrapping, decorations and crafts Beginning to notice numbers in the environment	Counting through nursery rhymes Number songs and finger rhymes Sorting and comparing objects Exploring shape and size through stories Positional language Beginning to notice sequencing and order	Counting animals and comparing groups Matching and sorting animals Exploring patterns (stripes, spots, shapes) Comparing size and weight Positional language (under, over, through) Exploring simple repeating patterns	Counting vehicles and passengers Comparing speed, size and distance Sorting vehicles by type Exploring positional language (under, over, next to) Recognising simple shapes in transport Creating repeating patterns	Counting objects beyond 5 Comparing size, distance and capacity Exploring positional language Sorting objects from different environments Recognising shapes in the environment Repeating patterns and simple problem solving
Understanding the World	Family history and special people Similarities and differences My body and senses Homes and environments Seasonal changes – Autumn Harvest	Family celebrations and traditions Diwali Christmas Bonfire Night Similarities and differences between celebrations Seasonal change – Winter Light and dark	Materials linked to story houses and objects Comparing homes and environments Seasonal changes – Winter to Spring Exploring how things work through story problems Cooking and baking linked to stories Exploring similarities and differences	Wild animals and habitats Animal babies and life cycles Caring for living things Minibeasts Seasonal change – Spring Similarities and differences between animals	Different types of transport Journeys and travel Local environment and transport Maps and simple directions How things move Road safety	Communities around the world Different homes, foods and celebrations Maps and journeys Seaside environments Water exploration Seasonal change – Summer Similarities and differences between people and places

Expressive Art and Design Creating with Materials Being Imaginative and Expressive	Self portraits	Firework paintings	Puppet making	Animal mask making	Junk modelling vehicles	Food tasting and cultural art
	Colour mixing	Rangoli patterns	Story role play	Animal printing and textures	Wheel painting and printing	Exploring music and dance from around the world
	Family pictures	Christmas crafts and decorations	Small world storytelling	Collage using different materials	Transport songs and movement	Treasure map making
	Autumn transient art	Exploring colour and texture	Building houses for story characters	Jungle music and movement	Making maps and tickets	Under the sea art and transient art
	Singing familiar songs	Dancing to celebration music	Creating story props	Small world animal play	Small world vehicle play	Small world imaginative play
	Exploring instruments	Singing seasonal songs and rhymes	Singing nursery rhymes	Junk modelling habitats	Building roads and bridges	Den building and role play
	Pretend play in the home corner	Small world and role play linked to celebrations	Exploring instruments and sounds	Painting and drawing animals	Exploring music and sounds linked to movement	Junk modelling boats and transport