

-During this half term our enquiry is:

Does Everything Grow?

This half term we will be exploring the topic growing. We will be thinking about and exploring this fascinating topic and investigating questions including- Does everything grow? How does a seed know when to grow? What are the perfect conditions for growth? How have we changed since we were born? What do we notice about Spring? This is a super topic for all of our children that enables them to be outdoors noticing changes to the plants and seeds in our garden and surrounding park.

Focus Texts: *The Tin Forest* by Helen Ward and the traditional tale *Jack and the Beanstalk*

A large part of the learning in Reception stems from the interests of our children. We wonder what exciting subjects the children will want to explore this term!

Subject	Activities / areas to be covered in school	Possible learning at home
Personal, Social and Emotional Development.	<p>I will be learning to</p> <p>Talk about how we can look after ourselves and the environment. Discuss character feelings, discuss how feelings change- Using the focussed texts</p> <p>Getting along & sharing with our peers and resolving conflicts with other children e.g. finding a compromise</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find as many opportunities as possible to talk to your child about their school day. Sometimes children open up more about their activities during bath time, teatime and bedtime when they are more relaxed. Encourage your child to be as independent as they can. Spend some time on a weekend allowing them to get themselves ready – I know this can be a rush on a school morning! Chat together about new life that is appearing all around them Ask your child the question – How have you changed since you were a baby? What can you do now?
Physical Development	<p>I will learning to...</p> <p>Weekly handwriting, PE- using the large apparatus, handwriting practice, Jump Start Johnny.</p> <p>Keeping healthy / looking after our bodies/ the importance of a good diet to help us to grow/ dressing and undressing skills.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep practising the graphemes at home and using the mantras as you write them. Get out and about in parks etc and enjoy the fresh air. How fast can you walk? What happens to your heartbeat? Why does this happen? Discuss with your child. Discuss the importance of eating a healthy diet to enable us to grow up healthily Remind the children of the need to try and keep germs at bay and how they spread. Practise coughing into the arm of their sleeves or into a tissue and make sure it goes in the bin.

Communication and Language.	<p>I will be learning to...</p> <p>Retell stories with actions Listen to other children's ideas and responding to them. Talk about caring for the environment, the animals and ourselves. Retell a story without pictures or props Role-play and small world play Talking about changes in the environment and noticing signs of Spring and new life Show and Tell opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Try and find as many opportunities as you can to talk to your child. Model how to speak in full sentences and encourage your child to answer using a full sentence rather than just one-word answer. It's all about how we model speech. If they make a mistake, just repeat the word/sentence back to them and model the correct way.
Literacy	<p>I will be learning to...</p> <p>Daily phonics revisiting the phonemes ai, ee, igh, oa, ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er and the mantras to accompany them Continue to practise writing the graphemes ur, ow, oi, ear, air, ure, er and the mantras to accompany them Practising reading in the Little Wandle reading sessions. Practising the tricky words Reading longer words using the 'chunking' method Ordering stories with actions. Explore non-fiction books about growing, exploring traditional Tales and the beginning, middle and end of these stories Writing words and sentences to retell stories, making lists and labelling. Writing simple sentences remembering finger spaces, capital letter at the beginning, full stop at the end and letters sitting on the line.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practise the phonemes regularly along with the tricky words and high frequency words. The more they practise, the easier reading and writing becomes for the children. Support your child with the reading longer words by chunking them eg drag-on, farm-yard, munch-ing. Share your child's reading cards- even if it is just a couple of sentences. Have a bedtime story with your 'Care and Share' book and discuss things happening in the pictures. Encourage them to predict what they think might happen next. Think of simple sentences to write together.
Mathematics	<p>I will be learning to....</p> <p>Naming and using 2D and 3D shapes Order numbers to 10 Sorting objects into groups (including equal groups). Double numbers to 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Count for lots of different purposes Keep practising number formation using the mantras Use the language of size big, bigger, biggest, small, smaller, smallest, etc. Can you order different objects by size? Practise naming shapes in the environment using rectangle, square, circle, triangle and if you spot 3D shapes- cube, cuboid, sphere etc.

Understanding The World	<p>I will be learning to...</p> <p>Explore sustainability in the school environment and beyond. Explore the similarities and differences of life in this country and in a rainforest. Label the parts of a plant- stem, bulb, root, shoot, flower, and petal. Discuss any new life- shoots coming through, buds on the trees, etc Discuss what a seed needs to grow and planting seeds. Thinking about litter and the impact on our environment and the vital importance of recycling. Technology Staying safe whilst using the iPads. Using the iPads and computers to search for interesting facts and information</p> <p>Exploring questions about growing. How have we changed? What can we do now that we couldn't do as a baby? Sharing and discussing the Easter Story.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As you go out for a walk, can you spot more signs of Spring? Discuss these together as you find shoots and buds starting to grow on the trees • Create a height chart and see how tall you grow. • If you have a baby in the house, talk about things a baby can't do and what your older child can. • Look for seeds in different fruits. Try planting them and watch to see if they grow. • Talk about caring for our environment and ensuring any rubbish goes in the bin • Re-cycle together and discuss the different materials- paper, plastic. Metal etc and sort them together. • Remind your child to stay safe on the computer and to notify you if they see something they don't like
Expressive Arts and Design	<p>I will be learning to...</p> <p>sing familiar songs and rhymes observational drawings and paintings of flowers explore 2D and 3D art small world play Explore artists painting about spring</p>	<p>Continue to sing nursery rhymes and other songs that the children might know. This helps the children to rhyme as they progress through the year. Enjoy different genres of music together. Try some jazz, classical or maybe folk music.</p>
Key Vocabulary	<p>Wide, windswept, junk, recycle, change, create, dream, real, lonely, kind, caring, animal names, 3D shapes, 2D shapes, join, create, giant, huge, enormous, poor, poor, scared, cross, furious, angry, hidden, capture, disobedient, winding, grow, tall, taller, measure, compare, smallest, twisting, brave, Once upon a Time, metal, plastic, paper, fabric, card.</p>	