

Awesome Animals Summer 1 2026



Nursery Curriculum Map- Summer 1- 2026

Communication and Language:

Be able to express a point of view and to debate when they disagree with an adult or a friend, using words as well as actions.

Develop their pronunciation but may have problems saying:

- some sounds: r, j, th, ch, and sh
- multisyllabic words such as 'pterodactyl', 'planetarium' or 'hippopotamus'

Use talk to organise themselves and their play: "Let's go on a bus... you sit there... I'll be the driver."

Start a conversation with an adult or a friend and continue it for many turns.

Physical Development:



- Use one-handed tools and equipment, for example, making snips in paper with scissors.
- Collaborate with others to manage large items, such as moving a long plank safely, carrying large hollow blocks.
- Choose the right resources to carry out their own plan. For example, choosing a spade to enlarge a small hole they dug with a trowel.
- Match their developing physical skills to tasks and activities in the setting. For example, they decide whether to crawl, walk or run across a plank, depending on its length and width.
- Use a comfortable grip with good control when holding pens and pencils.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

Become more outgoing with unfamiliar people, in the safe context of their setting.

Remember rules without needing an adult to remind them.

Develop appropriate ways of being assertive.

Make healthy choices about food, drink, activity and tooth brushing.

Talk with others to solve conflicts.

Talk about their feelings using words like 'happy', 'sad', 'angry' or 'worried'.

Understand gradually how others might be feeling.

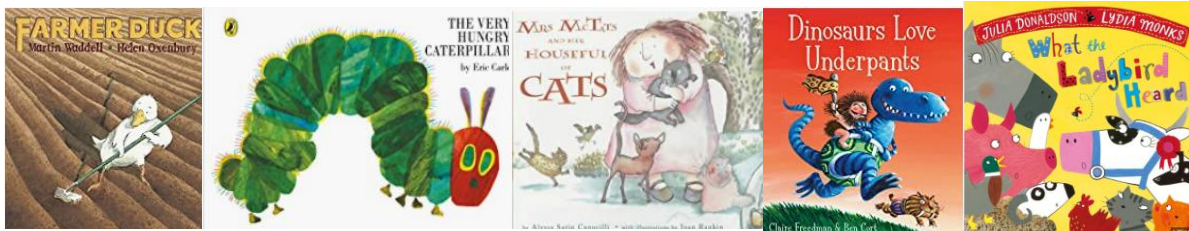
Be increasingly independent in meeting their own care needs, e.g brushing teeth, using the toilet, washing and drying hands thoroughly.

Develop their sense of responsibility and membership of a community.



Animated storybook: Red needs the toilet - Developing personal hygiene.





Literacy:

- To understand that
 - print has meaning-print can have different purposes
 - we read English text from left to right and from top to bottom
 - the names of the different parts of a book
 - page sequencing
- Engage in extended conversations about stories, learning new vocabulary.



Phonics - Speed Sounds

- Develop their phonological awareness, so that they can:
 - ✓ spot and suggest rhymes
 - ✓ count or clap syllables in a word
 - ✓ recognise words with the same initial sound, such as money and mother



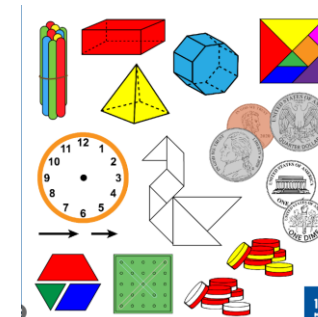
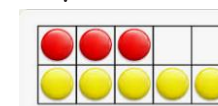
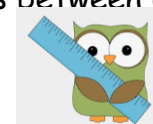
Writing

- Use some of their print and letter knowledge in their early writing. For example: writing a pretend shopping list that starts at the top of the page; writing 'm' for mummy.
- Write some or all of their name.
- Write some letters accurately.



Mathematics:

- Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes (for example, circles, rectangles, triangles and cuboids) using informal and mathematical language: 'sides', 'corners'; 'straight', 'flat', 'round'
- Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity
- Select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof etc.
- Combine shapes to make new ones - an arch, a bigger triangle etc.
- Experiment with their own symbols and marks as well as numerals.
- Recite numbers past 5.
- Solve real world mathematical problems with numbers up to 5.
- Compare quantities using language: 'more than', 'fewer than'
- Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as 'first', 'then...
- Say one number for each item in order: 1,2,3,4,5



Understanding the World:

Past and Present - History

- Begin to make sense of their own life-story and family's history.



People, Culture and Communities RE and Geography

- Know that there are different countries in the world and talk about the differences they have experienced or seen in photos.
- Continue developing positive attitudes about the differences between people.

The Natural World - Science

- Plant seeds and care for growing plants.
- Talk about what they see, using a wide vocabulary.
- Use all their senses in hands-on exploration of natural materials
- Explore collections of materials with similar and/or different properties.
- Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant and an animal.
- Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.



Expressive Arts and Design:

Imaginative Play

- Take part in simple pretend play, using an object to represent something else even though they are not similar.
- Begin to develop complex stories using small world equipment like animal sets, dolls and dolls houses etc.
- Make imaginative and complex 'small worlds' with blocks and construction kits, such as a city with different buildings and a park.



Art - Sculpture

- Explore different materials freely, to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make
- Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them.
- Join different materials and explore different textures.



Music

- Listen with increased attention to sounds
- Play instruments with increasing control to express their feelings and ideas.
- Respond to what they have heard, expressing their thoughts and feelings
- Sing the pitch of a tone sung by another person ('pitch match').

Being Imaginative and Expressive: A Prelude to Spanish:



An early introduction to the language of Spanish. Learn the basics of the Spanish language.

Spanish Food: Learn about food from Spain. Explore and taste food from another country. Explore how the food is different to what is eaten at home.