

OUR LEARNING YEAR 1 SPRING 2026

This document provides an overview of the learning your child will engage in this term. It highlights their learning journey, core knowledge, and the key vocabulary they will encounter. It is a handy guide to support learning conversations with your child. What learning can they remember?

Topic Concept:

Diversity and Inclusion

As part of this topic children will learn about themselves, celebrate differences, and understand how everyone can be included in their community

Big Question: Can we all belong, even if we're different?

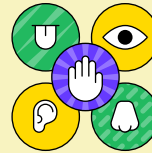
We often explore this question through various approaches, such as reading books and engaging in debates about the theme

Our 'Preparation Skills' will be:

Problem solving
Positive thinking
Resilience

SCIENCE - Animals, including humans, seasonal change

- The parts we can see are our external body parts, the parts we can't see are our internal body parts
- We have 5 senses: sight, touch, taste, smell and hearing
- We use our senses to explore the world around us
- We have specific body parts for each sense
- Animals have body parts that are unique to them, for example gills, tails and beaks
- Some animals can be sorted into the following groups: mammals, reptiles, fish, amphibians, birds and insects
- Carnivores only eat meat
- Herbivores only eat plants
- Omnivores eat both meat and plants
- There are four seasons: spring, summer, autumn and winter
- The days become longer in spring compared to winter
- the temperature is warmer in spring compared to winter
- Deciduous trees start to grow their leaves and flowers back in spring
- Evergreen trees retain their leaves all year round, regardless of the season



Children will learn to name the external body parts, including the body parts that are used for the five senses. Learners will learn the different parts of animals and classify them into mammals, reptiles, fish, amphibians and birds. As part of the children's ongoing learning they will explore the season of spring and the changes that occur, including the weather

Linked to their learning in History children will explore the illustrator Beatrix Potter. They will build on their drawing skills by creating illustrations using pen and pencil. Children will develop their colour mixing skills and use watercolours. Children will compare different illustrators including Quentin Blake. Children will continue to build their clay shaping techniques by creating their own Morph characters from plasticine. They will learn about stop motion filming to make a model or drawing look like it is moving

Vocabulary:

Illustrator, illustration, artist, sketch, media, medium, horizontal, vertical, diagonal, line, line drawing, colour, colour mixing, primary, secondary, palette, lighter, darker, watercolour, translucent, style, thick, thin, appraise, judge, 2D, 3D, clay, terracotta, form, shaping, moulding, pinching, texture, detail, scoring, stop motion

ART AND DESIGN - Illustration

- An illustrator is an artist who draws the pictures in a book (or magazine, poster, animations)
- Illustrations appear in all types of texts from fiction to nonfiction
- A line drawing is a drawing just made of lines, which does not usually have any shading
- Beatrix Potter was both an author and an illustrator
- Red, yellow and blue are primary colours
- Primary colours can be mixed together to make secondary colours
- Orange, green and purple are secondary colours
- Watercolours are a type of paint that can be mixed with water to create translucent layers of colour on paper.
- 3d or 3 dimensional art is any kind of art that takes up three-dimensional space and is viewable from many angles
- You can create texture on clay using clay tools and everyday objects like pencils and forks
- Stop motion is a way of making a moving sequence from a model



COMPUTING - Online safety, program design and algorithms

- An algorithm is a precise step-by-step set of instructions used to solve a problem or achieve an objective
- Coding is writing instructions that a computer can understand
- Fixing a code that has errors is called debugging
- It is important to stay safe online and not share your personal information

Children will build on their previous learning and explore program design and put computational thinking into practice. Children will learn that coding is creating a set of instructions, or an algorithm. Children will learn to write a simple code as well as debug premade programs. Children will continue to build on their basic computing and keyboard skills. Children will continue to focus on the safe use of the internet and online safety

Vocabulary: Instruction, algorithm, programmer, code, coding, software, code blocks, object, action, command, design view, code view, run, debug, debugging, event, click, when clicked, output, sound, execute, background, scene, attributes, scale, plan, design

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - Mechanisms, sliders and smoothies

- Mechanisms can be made of levers and sliders that can make things move
- Design means to plan something
- Designs and instructions should be accurately followed to create a product
- An evaluation allows us to understand what went well, what didn't work as well and what we can improve on next time
- Some ingredients can come from different countries
- Good hygiene is important to prevent the spread of germs
- Different tools and skills can be used to manipulate food



Children will continue to explore how they can make objects with moving parts by exploring different mechanisms and sliders. Children will again deconstruct/explore - design - evaluate a product by making a sliding image linked to their learning in History about Beatrix Potter stories and illustrations. To develop their understanding of food technology and healthy eating children will learn about smoothies and their ingredients. They will learn that not all smoothies are healthy too! They will deconstruct - design - make - evaluate their own healthy smoothies

Vocabulary:

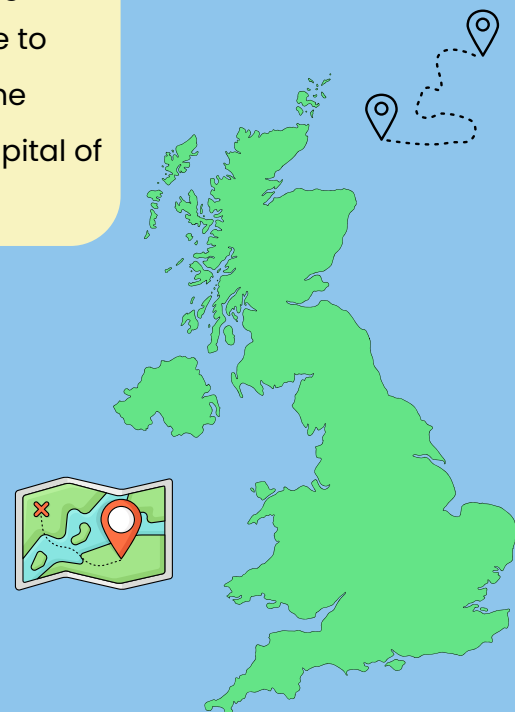
Levers, sliders, mechanism, slot, guide, design, move, make, evaluate, successful, unsuccessful, improve, ingredients, continents, Europe, hygiene, healthy, peel, cut, blend, mix, stir, slice, evaluation, change

GEOGRAPHY - The UK and our locality, human and physical features

- We can use a range of resources (eg. maps, atlases, globes, Google Earth) to help locate different countries and seas
- Physical features are things that are in the natural environment such as a beach, cliff, coast, forest, hill, mountain, sea
- Human features are things that have been built by humans, including a city, town, village, factory, farm, house, office
- We can use a maps, plans and keys to find the route from one place to another and identify landmarks
- St. David is the patron saint of Wales and the capital is Cardiff and the surrounding seas are Celtic and Irish Sea
- St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland and Northern Ireland . The capital of Northern Ireland is Belfast and the surrounding seas are Irish Sea and Atlantic Ocean

Children will build on their knowledge of the school, its grounds and the direct locality and explore the local environment more widely. Children will learn about physical and human features and identify these in the local area, including the beach. Children will use and create maps with a key and identify and follow their route on a map. They will explore a range of maps, including how symbols represent different features

Vocabulary: Countries, Google Earth, Indian Ocean, Pacific, Indian Sea, Arctic Ocean, Southern Ocean, globes, maps, atlases, human features, physical features, local area, route, map symbols, Wales, Cardiff, Irish Sea, Celtic Sea, capital, Europe, equator line, Northern Hemisphere, Northern Ireland, Atlantic Ocean, Belfast





HISTORY - Beatrix Potter, Victorian life and school

- Beatrix Potter is a well known author and illustrator
- Asking historical questions helps us to learn and find out about the past
- We can find out about the past by using historical sources
- Historical sources are things like old pictures, letters, or objects that help us learn about the past
- Life, schools and toys in Victorian times has some similarities and differences to now
- It is called Victorian times as this was when Queen Victoria reigned

The children will learn about the life of Beatrix Potter as an author and illustrator (also in art and design), and as a woman in the Victorian era. They will learn about and compare ways of life in the past to now, particularly what life was like for children by exploring their school life and how toys have changed.

MUSIC - Little Peter Rabbit

- Pulse is the steady beat of music.
- Long and short sounds put together create rhythm.
- When sounds get higher or lower their pitch changes.
- The tempo is how fast or slow the music plays.
- A verse is the part of a song that changes and tells the story.
- A chorus is the part of a song that stays the same and is repeated between the verses

Vocabulary: pulse, steady beat, rhythm, long, short, instrument, percussion, body percussion, chorus, verse, practise, perform, tempo, fast, slow, glockenspiel, musical, clap, tap, click, percussion instruments

PE - Throwing, catching, invasion games

- It is important to warm up our bodies for exercise to be safe
- In a PE lesson we use the 3S - safe, sensible, space
- There are different types of throws including chest, bounce pass and over-arm
- When throwing and catching it is important to look in the direction of the throw(er) and catch(er)
- We position our hands in a 'bowl shape' ready to catch a ball
- Underarm throwing, involves a backward-forward swing of the hand to release a ball
- A chest pass is a pass in which the ball is quickly propelled from the chest by the hands and arms
- A shoulder throw is a behind the back throw where the ball comes forward over the shoulder on the same side as the hand it's thrown from
- The correct way to stop a ball is by placing the bottom of a foot on top of the ball
- Dribbling involves staying on the ball whilst it is moved around
- Tagging means to remove a tag from another players belt
- Sportsmanship is fair and generous behaviour or treatment of others during a sporting contest

Vocabulary:

Throw, catch, roll, scoop, bowl shape, stop, bend, bounce, position, underarm, overarm, backward, forward, swing, release, chest pass, propel, shoulder throw, dribbling, control, tagging, sportsmanship, contest

This term, the teaching of PE is supported by a sports coach alongside the class teacher. Children will continue to focus on the effects of exercise on our bodies, including how to keep our bodies safe when doing physical exercise. Children will begin to develop their throwing and catching skills and techniques. The children will be introduced to a range of team and invasion games and develop their team work and turn taking. Through devising and playing simple games they will practise simple tactics for attacking and defending.

Vocabulary:

Historical questions, past, present, then, now, information, Victorian times, author, illustrator, modern, search, source, published, Kiddle, Queen Victoria, reigned, sewage, servant, crowded, wealthy, slate, ink, finger stocks, dunce, uniform, blackboard, chalk, cane, gender, class, law, games, technology, electricity, playground games, rich, poor, wooden cup and ball, Jacob's ladder, tin toy, marbles, spinning top, slide whistle, pop gun, wooden spinner, skittles, yo-yo

This term there will be a focus on rehearsing and performing as the children learn to sing and accompany the song 'Little Peter Rabbit' to perform to their parents and carers linking to their learning about Beatrix Potter and Peter Rabbit in art and history. Children will continue to learn playing the glockenspiel adding the notes B and G to their repertoire and use untuned percussion instruments. Children will focus on exploring the rhythm, pulse, pitch and tempo as they explore different songs about stories and imagination and 'Little Peter Rabbit'.



PSHE - Belonging to a community, media literacy and digital resilience, money and work

- Rules are important because they keep things fair and keep us safe
- Everyone is different and has different needs
- There are lots of ways we can help care for the environment
- E-safety is the safe and responsible use of technology (eg. the internet)
- We follow rules to keep us safe on the internet
- A strength is something that you are good at, everybody has them
- Community jobs help people
- When we grow up we can get a job linked to our strengths
- Private parts are the parts of your body that are covered by your underwear or swimsuit



Children will learn that living things, including people, have specific needs and how we can look after the local and wider environment. Children will learn about the benefits of the internet and how to be safe when using it. Children will learn to identify their strengths and see how these can be linked to occupations in the future, Children will also revisit the PANTS rules

Vocabulary: Rules, agreements, fair, needs, equity, different, environment, eco warrior, climate, care, respect, internet, online, safety, e safety, stranger, safe, strength, attribute, kind, helpful, bravery, teamwork, fairness, curious, regulation, community, grow up, job, career, future, private, help, trust, assist, support.

RE - Who is a Muslim and what do they believe? How and why do we celebrate special times?

- Religion is what you believe about human beings' relationship to a higher power (such as a god), and faith is being confidently sure about something even if you cannot see it
- Allah is the name Muslims use for God. They believe Allah made everything, knows everything, and is very kind and fair. Allah is one, with no helpers or partners
- Muslims, Christians, and Jews all believe in one God, but they have different ideas about what God is like and how to worship Him
- The Quran is the sacred text for Muslims
- Muslims believe that God (called Allah) sent the Prophet Mohammed messages through an angel named Gabriel. These messages were written down in the Qur'an
- The Five Pillars are a set of religious duties that Muslims use as a framework for their beliefs and their lives
- Ramadan is a holy month of worship, study of the Quran, prayer, and fasting
- Holi is a Hindu festival that celebrates spring, love, and new life
- Easter is a Christian festival which marks the resurrection of Jesus Christ

Children will build on their understanding of religion, faith and belief with a focus on Muslims and how many Muslims practice their faith, including exploring the Quran as the sacred text and the mosque as a holy building. Children will learn about the Prophet Mohammed and how Muslims strive to lead good lives by following the Five Pillars of Islam. Children will enjoy different stories from the Muslim faith. Children will look at the similarities and differences compared to other world religions and continue to learn that not all Muslims act in the same way. Children will continue to explore how different religions and people with personal worldviews have different celebrations.

Vocabulary:

Belonging, faith, religion, Christian, Muslim, Islam, Allah, Prophet, Makkah, Mecca, angel, Jibrael, revelation, Tanakh, hadiths, sira, ethical, guidance, compassion, justice, humility, duty, Pillars, fasting, pilgrimage, pray, responsible, precious, belongings, possessions, Kaabah, prayer cap, prayer beads, prayer mats, Rehal, Holi, Hindu, festival, victory, eve, Easter, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, risen, disciples, crucified, crucifix, sacrifice, resurrection, creation, similarities, differences, special power, scientists, Big Bang Theory, explosion, Bible, Quran, sacred, holy, respect, memorise, recite, acceptance, worldview, Arabic

Happy Easter