

### **Understanding the World**

**The World** – Children comment on what they can see and changes that occur.

**People and Communities** - Children learn that they have similarities and differences to others. Children talk about significant events in their experiences.

**Technology** – Children complete simple games and programs on the IWB.

### **Physical Development**

**Moving and Handling** - Children to develop fine motor skills. Children handle tools with increasing control.

**Health and Self-Care** – Children dress with help. Children go to the toilet independently. Children learn how to use equipment safely. Children learn about the importance of exercise.

### **Personal, Social and Emotional**

**Making Relationships** – Children can play nicely in a group. Children keep play going by responding to others. Children initiate play. Children build up a role play with others.

**Self-Confidence and Awareness** - Children are confident to talk to others. Children ask adults for help. Children are confident to access activities.

**Managing Feeling and Behaviour** - Children can accept the needs of others and take turns. Children are aware of their own and others' feelings. Children can cooperate with routines. Children can inhibit own actions/behaviours.

### **Literacy**

**Reading** – Children get to hear and explore lots of stories. Children make predictions about a story, can answer questions about a story and can recall key facts from a story. Children can sequence a story. Children will continue learning phase 2 sounds, hearing initial sounds and begin to read CVC words.

**Writing** – Children have lots of sensory mark making experiences. Children give meaning to marks they make. Children begin to form some recognisable letters. Children will begin labelling pictures with initial sounds. Children will begin writing VC/CVC words.



Every half term the children in Nursery develop their skills through our cross curricular topic. This half-term we will be learning through the Topic:

### **All Things Bright and Beautiful**

This topic aims to develop children's knowledge of life cycles and growth. They will explore seed and plants and the life cycles of butterflies, chickens and tadpoles. The stories we will be learning through include The Tiny Seed, The Very Hungry Caterpillar and The Ugly Duckling.

### **Communication and Language**

**Listening and Attention** – Children can sit quietly and listen. Children can listen to stories with increasing attention and recall.

**Understanding** – Children understand simple questions e.g. who, where, what, how, why, **Speaking** - Children begin to use more complex sentences to link thoughts e.g. using 'and' and because.' Children can link statements and stick to a particular theme.

### **Mathematics**

**Number** – Children can verbally count in the correct order to 20. Children can count sets to 10 with good 1:1 correspondence. Children can count out up to 6 objects from a larger set. Children will recognise number to 10. Children can order numbers to 10.

**Shape, Space and Measure** – Children can recognise simple 2d shapes: circle, square, triangle and rectangle. Children can describing 2d shapes. Children can use shapes with a purpose e.g. making pictures with shapes.

### **Expressive Arts and Design**

**Exploring Media and Materials** – Children will be carrying out a range of crafts related to the book of the week. Children can use different construction materials and make models. Children construct with a purpose in mind. Children can combine media to achieve a planned effect.

**Being Imaginative** – Children build stories around toys. Children carry out imaginative role play. Children play alongside others engaged in the same theme.

## Things you could do at home

These activities are designed to enhance your child's learning and development. Please share with your child's class teacher any wonderful experiences that link with this half-term's topic. We would love to see examples of what you have done at home, please email photographs to [nursery@st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@st-nicholas.staffs.sch.uk) or send work into school for your child to celebrate with their peers.

- ❖ Read the stories that will be covered throughout the topic. Discuss the title, characters, setting and feelings of characters. Ask your child questions about the story once it has been read to encourage them to recall familiar stories. Maybe the children could retell the story to you using the pictures to help them?
- ❖ Crafts – pinterest have lots of lovely crafts that you could do. Remember to let your child do most of the work, offering a helping hand when needed.
- ❖ Ask number questions relating to the stories e.g. If the Hungry Caterpillar had 5 oranges, and ate 2, how many would he had left? If the Hungry Caterpillar had 1 apple and 2 pears, how many would he have altogether?
- ❖ Carry out writing activities with your child e.g. drawing pictures of their favourite characters e.g. the caterpillar or the butterfly and labelling them with initial sounds, making lists e.g. drawing or writing what the caterpillar ate, making a card for the Ugly Duckling etc.
- ❖ Role play the stories with your child.
- ❖ Fine motor activities linking to the stories e.g. hole punching and threading leaves, decorating butterfly templates with big, medium and small objects (don't forget to make it symmetrical) etc. Pinterest have lots of lovely fine motor activities!
- ❖ Observe and talk about the changes that are happening to the grass that the children have brought home.