



The Areas of Learning in the Early Years are:

- Personal Social and Emotional Development
- Communication and Language
- Physical Development
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Understanding the World
- Expressive Arts and Design

During each topic children will be immersed in a different theme.

Below is an outline of the curriculum covered in Reception.

<u>Characteristics of Effective Learning</u>		
• Playing and Exploring – Children investigate and experience things, and ‘have a go.’ • Active Learning - Children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties and enjoy achievements. • Creating and Thinking Critically - Children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things.		
A New Beginning	The Great Outdoors	Once Upon a Story
The <i>A New Beginning</i> theme for Reception is designed to nurture their natural curiosity and desire to form new friendships, explore unfamiliar spaces, and engage with their environment through play. Central to this theme is the emphasis identifying and expressing feelings, learning to communicate their needs and resolving conflict through	The theme of <i>The Great Outdoors</i> invites children to explore using their natural curiosity and engage with the world around them by asking questions and seeking answers. Activities will encompass a variety of hands-on experiences, including science experiments that encourage children to make predictions and discover answers, gardening projects that	<i>Once Upon a Story</i> invites Reception children into an immersive world of storytelling, where they will explore classic tales, nursery rhymes, and contemporary books designed to ignite their creativity and stimulate their imaginations. This theme aims to foster a deep appreciation for narratives and enhance children’s understanding of story elements. Activities will



emotional regulation and conversation. Activities will help children build vocabulary and develop essential social-emotional skills. In Mathematics, the focus will be on foundational number concepts up to 10, as well as an introduction to 2D shapes, patterns, and measurement. In Literacy, children will be introduced to Letters and Sounds Phase 2 letters and Tricky Words and begin to sound out and blend CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant) words.	foster a sense of responsibility and research skills. By getting their hands dirty, children will develop a deeper connection to the natural world and gain an understanding of their place within it. In Mathematics, children will gather natural objects to compare, deepening their knowledge of numbers, mathematical language and estimation. In Literacy, children will continue to read stories to extend their curiosity. In Phonics, they will review Phase 2 and begin Phase 3 of the Letters and Sounds scheme.	encourage children to retell stories and learn to act them out. In Mathematics, the focus will be on developing number concepts up to 20, as well as exploring 3D shapes, volume, distance, money and time. Children will be encouraged to use their Phonics knowledge to write captions and simple sentences for different purposes. Art projects will serve as a basis as children illustrate scenes from the stories they will listen to, allowing them to visualise narratives in their own unique ways.
Focus Texts: The Colour Monster by Anna Llenas You Get What You Get by Julie Gassman I like Myself by Karen Beaumont Shark in the Dark by Nick Sharratt The Wind in the Willows – Fairytale Stick Man by Julia Donaldson Room on the Broom by Julia Donaldson We are all Wonders by R.J. Palacio	Focus Texts: Jack and the Beanstalk - Fairytale The Nian Monster by Alice Wang Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao by Kat Zhang And the Rain Came Down by David Shannon Pip and Egg by Alex Latimer The Snail and the Whale by Julia Donaldson Talk for Writing: Tales from other Cultures	Focus Texts: Kerfuffle Bird by Helen Docherty Super Worm by Julia Donaldson The Tale of Peter Rabbit by Beatrix Potter There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly by Lucille Colandro The Tortoise and the Hare - Fable Talk for Writing: Storybook Fables



Key Skills	Key Skills	Key Skills
• Is aware of behavioural expectations and sensitive to the ideas of justice and fairness • Uses language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences in play situations • Is able to recall and discuss information or stories that have been read to them • Can talk about marks they make and discuss them • Uses number names and symbols when comparing numbers, showing interest in large numbers	• Shows an understanding of their own feelings and those of others and can regulate their own emotions • Participates in discussions offering their own ideas, using recently introduced vocabulary from stories, non-fiction, rhymes and poems • Begins to read some high frequency words and uses developing phonics knowledge to decode words • Uses phonic knowledge to write such as labels and captions, later progressing to simple sentences. • Explores and represents patterns within numbers up to 10, including odds and evens, double facts and how quantities can be distributed evenly	• Is confident to try new activities and shows independence, resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge • Expresses ideas and feelings about their experiences using full sentences, including past, present and future tenses and making use of conjunctions • Reads aloud simple words and books that are consistent with phonic knowledge, including common exception words • Writes simple phrases and sentences that can be read by others Begins to explore and work out mathematical problems, using signs and strategies of their choice, including '+' and '=' symbols.