

Forest School and Outdoor Learning:
Weekly welly walks (welly boots in school every day please!)

Understanding the World (Science, History, Geography, ICT)

Learning about different woodland animals - Where do they live? What do they eat? Identifying different footprints. Finding signs of them in local woods.

Caring for our pets – what do they need? Questions for our visitors.

How do animals help us – Guide dogs, hearing dogs, etc. Looking at X-Rays – link to Vets. Animal Babies and Habitats. What can animals make for us – wool, meat, honey, milk etc. Animal homes, animals and their babies – make animal homes using construction materials. Where can we find animals – jungle, farm, homes, zoo, desert, sea, arctic etc. Matching animals to where they come from and their homes. Why do animals live here?

ICT: Children to use talking tins to record their role play, and retell the stories and take photos and videos using class digital camera. Graphs for a pet survey. Create labels for pet displays and models. Use websites to find out information about pets. Complete a simple game on the computer – focusing on Mouse control.

Expressive Arts and Design (Art, DT, Music, Role Play)

Art/DT: Land art – creating pictures of animals using natural items found on a welly walk. Using clay to make a 3D Gruffalo style model. Collaborative art – making a large papier mache Gruffalo and decorating with paint and collage.

Making animal masks and accessories.

Music: Animal songs, setting Hairy Maclary to music. Care for Them, with pictures to identify more obscure animals. Carnival of the animals: Saint Saens.

Role Play: Gruffalo woods, pet shop, vets.

Small World: Creating our own imaginative stories.

Mathematics

Addition and Subtraction – Numbers to 5. Introducing zero. Number bonds to 5. Addition to 10. Combining two groups to find the whole. Number bonds to 10 – ten frame and part whole model.

Number and Place Value – Numbers to 10. Counting to 6, 7 and 8. Counting to 9 and 10. Comparing groups up to 10.

Shape and Space – Spatial awareness. 2D and 3D shapes

PSED and Religious Education

Caring for animals - Children to bring in pets from home and talk about them and how to care for them to the class.

SEAL - Going for Goals This theme focuses primarily on the key aspect of motivation, with a smaller focus on self-awareness. It gives an important opportunity for all children's abilities, qualities and strengths to be valued. The theme provides opportunities for children to reflect on themselves as individuals, particularly their strengths as learners and how they learn most effectively.

Good to be me This theme is about understanding our feelings as well as considering our strengths and weaknesses as learners. Understanding feelings, and why and how they lead us to behave the way we do – particularly the feelings of being excited, proud, surprised, hopeful, disappointed, worried and anxious. Self-awareness – feeling good about myself, taking risks. Managing my feelings – relaxing, coping with anxiety. Standing up for myself – assertiveness, standing up for my views.

Change and Growth: Awe and wonder, aspects of the natural world, spring and new life. Change in the natural world. Exploring the natural world. Think about some of the features of spring (new growth of plants, buds, flowers, lambs).

RE – Which symbols are associated with Easter? Introduce the 40 Acts of Kindness. Look at symbols of Easter, for example, Easter eggs, chicks, hot cross buns. How are these items used at Easter? Read Deedee's Easter Surprise. Talk about 'being friends' as Deedee and Jack are. Who are your friends? How can we be good friends? Make Easter greeting cards.

Diary dates:

Monday 6th January – Non pupil day
Tuesday 21st January – Squirrel Class Gruffalo Day at Seaton Wetlands
Tuesday 28th January – Reception Dance Festival at Axe Valley
Half term – Monday 17th to Friday 21st February
Tuesday 25th February – Pancake Day!
Thursday 5th March – World Book Day
End of Term – Friday 27th March

Communication, Language and Literacy

Gruffalo writing activities

Writing character descriptions of Gruffalo style creatures and their habitats. Writing sentences to retell part of the story. Writing our own ending to a story.

How do we care for different animals?

Topic books: Mog and the V.E.T; My Very, Very Busy Day; Don't Lick the Dog; Prudence Wants a Pet; Dogs; The Great Pet Sale, Hairy Maclary series; How to wash a Wooley Mammoth; Me Want Pet; Children Make Terrible Pets; What do you do with a tail like this?

Making our own fact sheets about a pet. Designing our own funny pet. What is the role of a Vet?

Physical Development

Spring 1: Dance and Movement - Handa's Hen Dance

Experiment with different ways of moving. Using our bodies to pretend to be an animal. Controlling a sponge ball

Spring 2: Large Equipment and Athletics

Using equipment safely. Travelling with skill under, over, through and around equipment. Controlling a beanbag. Controlling a large ball. Using a hockey stick to control a ball.

Health: Weekly cooking activities chosen by the children. Understanding the need for a range of food in order to keep us healthy. Making recipes linked to our focus text e.g. Gruffalo crumble.