Reception | Spring term / Family Learning Guide

Curiosity • perseverance • stories • growing number skills • seasons

FIRST HALF-TERM
Winter seasons, places around the world, old and new, and melting ice.

SECOND HALF-TERM
Friendships, planting, animal habitats, Spring and Easter.

The Seven Areas of Learning

Skills practised through play, stories and adult-guided experiences

Communication & Language

We practise listening to our talk partner and sharing their ideas with others. Children follow two-step instructions, using position words such as "under" and "behind", ask questions to check understanding and describe what they can see. We listen to stories without pictures, predict or explain events, suggest rhymes and talk about things that happened in the past. Listening and discussion times gradually grow as children are ready.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

We learn that trying again helps us meet challenges and solve problems. Building on autumn's exploration of practical strategies to manage emotions, we continue to practise sharing, taking turns and showing kindness in our games and friendships, discussing feelings and finding solutions to disagreements.

Physical Development

We improve control with bats, balls, rackets and balancing activities. Our growing independence includes changing for PE with less adult help and taking responsibility for our belongings. Dough Disco, handwriting and fine-motor tasks strengthen fingers; we work towards a comfortable tripod pencil grip and clearer, more controlled letter formation.

Literacy

Through daily phonics and stories, children practise reading words and writing simple captions or sentences. They begin to compose what they want to say before writing it; later add a full stop to show where a sentence ends. We continue to develop clear letter formation.

Mathematics

We quickly recognise groups up to five, count beyond five and explore how whole numbers are made from parts. Later we explore six, numbers made from five and "some more", and compare groups. We use shapes, positions, patterns, length, height and capacity when planning and problem-solving with block structures.

Understanding the World

We compare seasons and contrasting places, make classroom maps and investigate everyday objects from the past. In Spring 1 we predict and test how ice melts or freezes, then talk about the results. In Spring 2, building on Nursery photographs and group conversations, we plant seeds and independently record changes in a growing journal using dated drawings, labels and observations. We also compare animal habitats, explore countries through stories and learn about Easter.

Expressive Arts & Design

We explore collage textures, make lanterns and choose instruments for story sound effects. Later we paint spring flowers and make Easter artwork. In Stage 6 block play, children move from patterns towards planned, recognisable models: they choose blocks for a purpose, name their creations and work together to build more detailed structures.

Didsbury CE Primary School
Belonging Believing Becoming
Thrive CE Academy Trust

Our Reading & Rhyme Journey

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Our core texts are explored in more depth; supporting stories enrich our daily reading. We also revisit favourite books and rhymes throughout the year.

Spring 1

CORE TEXTS





OTHER STORIES WE WILL SHARE













NURSERY RHYMES & SONGS

- Incy Wincy Spider
- Dingle Dangle Scarecrow

Spring 2

CORE TEXTS





OTHER STORIES WE WILL SHARE













NURSERY RHYMES & SONGS

- Hickory Dickory Dock
- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Once I Caught a Fish Alive

A LITTLE IDEA FOR HOME Use ice cubes to explore melting and refreezing. Ask your child to predict what will happen, then explain what they noticed.

Our curriculum is flexible; experiences may be adapted or revisited to match children's interests and needs.