Family Learning Guide

Nursery | Summer term

Growing confidence • sounds and names • number games • living things

FIRST HALF-TERM

Farm visit, animal life cycles, friendships, patterns and first letter sounds.

SECOND HALF-TERM

The sea, summer, new teachers and getting ready for Reception.

The Seven Areas of Learning

Skills practised through play, stories and adult-guided experiences

Communication & Language

- Children build up to longer shared conversations and group times (towards around 15 minutes with support). They use new vocabulary in play, remember key parts of stories, talk about what happened and begin to explain "why". We practise listening to two-part instructions, position words such as "above" and "below", and speaking confidently with adults and friends.

Personal, Social & Emotional Development

- We talk about families, making and keeping friends, taking turns and finding solutions to disagreements.
- We notice how our bodies have grown and what helps us stay healthy.
- We celebrate our achievements and help children feel secure about moving into Reception.

Physical Development

- Tweezers, dough tools and play cutlery strengthen finger-and thumb movements.
- Children draw on smaller paper, copy their names and practise making letters.
- Their grip becomes more comfortable and controlled as they move from a whole-hand grasp towards using fingers more precisely; children develop at different rates, so we support an effective grip rather than rushing it.
- Outdoor movement and balancing continue every day.

Literacy

- Our sound games lead into early phonics. In Summer 1 we copy voice sounds and clap syllables in words; in Summer 2 we hear matching first sounds and practise blending and splitting spoken words into sounds (e.g. c-o-t).
- These are essential foundations before learning letters.
- We also introduce individual sounds playfully: m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f, then e, l, h, r, j, v, y, w, z, x.
- Children choose books, predict events and practise writing their names.

Mathematics

- We recognise groups of dots, compare collections, make our own repeating patterns and play games with numbers up to five.
- Stage 4 block play introduces enclosures: putting blocks together to surround a space, such as a house or farm pen. As children build, they compare sizes, decide what fits inside and explain where things go. This strengthens shape and spatial thinking.

Understanding the World

- On a farm visit we look at animals and their young, talking about how living things grow and change througg their life cycles.
- We notice spring and summer weather, and talk about days of the week.
- Later we explore ocean creatures and litter, learn how to care for nature, share holiday journeys on maps and meet our new teachers.
- Adults help us discuss and record what we have noticed.

Expressive Arts & Design

- In Stage 4 block play we build enclosed spaces, such as houses or animal pens, then use them as settings for imaginative stories.
- We mix colours, paint butterflies and other living things, make puppets and choose materials to bring our ideas to life.
- We also clap along to a beat, identify instruments by sound and choose how to play them.

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

Didsbury CE Primary School
Belonging Believing Becoming
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Our Reading & Rhyme Journey

Nursery | Summer term

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

Summer 1

CORE TEXTS • Original book cover artwork



OTHER STORIES WE WILL SHARE



NURSERY RHYMES & SONGS

- Five Little Monkeys
- Old MacDonald
- The Magic Porridge Pot

Summer 2

CORE TEXTS • Original book cover artwork



OTHER STORIES WE WILL SHARE



NURSERY RHYMES & SONGS

- London Bridge is Falling Down
- Dance Thumbkin Dance
- Five Currant Buns

A LITTLE IDEA FOR HOME

Visit a farm, park or garden and talk about baby and adult animals; clap the parts in familiar words, then let your child show you how they write their name.

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