

Nursery Knowledge Map

Autumn One 2025 - I am Special



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Basic Knowledge:

- I will show an awareness of my new surroundings and will begin to feel part of the group.
- I will show an awareness of the nursery routines and boundaries.
- I will select and use different activities and resources with help.
- I will begin to understand that a good friend shares their toys.
- I will understand that after playing with the toys, I must help to tidy up.
- I understand that my grown up will drop me off at nursery and will return at the end of each session.

How to help:

Talk to your child about how they will have fun in nursery and will explore lots of exciting activities and begin to make new friends. Say good-bye to your child when you leave and tell them you will be back to collect them later. Talk about how at the end of the day everybody goes home, even Mrs Crellin and Mrs Hardwick.

Reiterate how the teachers are there to help. Encourage them to 'have a go' but to ask for support when needed!

Key Vocabulary:

- Golden Rules
- Share
- Tidy time
- Good Sitting
- Listen
- Friend



Physical Development

Basic Knowledge:

I am becoming independent in my ability to take care of my needs i.e. using the toilet and washing my hands. I will attempt to put my coat, shoes and socks on.

- I will enjoy using large muscle movements to wave streamers, paint and make marks.
- I will continue to develop my movement, balancing, riding scooters, trikes, and bikes.
- I will enjoy climbing up steps and apparatus using alternative feet. I will explore kicking and catching a ball.

How to help:

Encourage your child to be independent. When arriving at nursery prompt your child to take responsibility for carrying his/her own belongings. At home, encourage your child to get dressed with support. Prompt your child to put on his/her own coat and shoes to go outside. Fastening on coats and shoes may be difficult for your child to manipulate, however you can help to get it started by encouraging your child to complete the last step, such as pulling up the zip. This will help your child problem solve and feel confident in themselves!

Key Vocabulary:

- 'I can'
- Walk
- Run
- Kicl



Communication and Language Development

Basic Knowledge:

I will show an interest in songs, rhymes and stories

I will begin to talk to my new friends and teachers

I will learn the rules for good listening when sharing a story with a group

I will learn how to switch my attention to more than one thing

I will begin to develop my communication skills and learn new vocabulary

I will use simple sentences to talk about the special objects in my 'Me Bag'

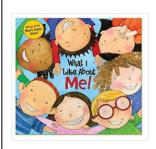
Key Vocabulary:

- Good Looking
- Good listening
- Good sitting
- Hands on lap
- Sticky lips
- Storytime
- Carpet time

How to help:

Share books with your child at home and ask questions about the text i.e. What's that? Who's that? Where is? Talk to your child about why it is important to pay attention when others are talking. Give your child lots of opportunities to communicate and to hear and use new vocabulary. Encourage them to use the correct tenses and plurals by modelling language during play.

Talk to your child about the things they have chosen to put in their special bag. Discuss why they are important to them. Give them a running commentary of how they decided what to put in, i.e. 'Have you put in this car because you love playing with cars?' Did you choose that because it's your favourite food?'



Literacy

Basic Knowledge:

I will begin to distinguish between the different marks I make i.e. 'that's my mummy' or 'that's my name' I will begin to understand that print carries meaning and will repeat words and phrases from familiar stories I will explore how text is read from left to right and top to bottom I will join in with nursery rhymes

How to help:

Sing lots of different nursery rhymes together at home. Take turns to sing the different parts and encourage your child to anticipate what comes next. Nursery rhymes help your child's brain to differentiate between syllables and to identify similarities between words that rhyme or words that begin with the same sounds. Encourage your child to enjoy making their marks with a variety of different materials. If your child is reluctant to mark make using crayons, try sensory resources such as mark making in sand/mud with a stick or using water and a paintbrush outdoors.

Key Vocabulary:

- Nursery rhyme
- Story
- Tell me about...



Mathematics

Basic Knowledge:

I will notice simple shapes and patterns in pictures i.e. circles, square, triangle, star, spots, stripes

- I will be able to make comparisons between objects relating to size i.e. big and small
- I will enjoy exploring number rhymes up to number five
- I will explore 2D shapes (circle, square, triangle and rectangle)
- I will use number names in my play i.e. 'look I've got two fish.'
- I will use my fingers to show 'one' and 'two'

How to help:

At home, use number names in meaningful contexts, e.g. 'How many pieces of toast would you like?' 'Here is your other shoe. Now you have two'. Talk about maths in everyday situations, e.g. doing up a coat, one hole for each button. Laying the table for lunch, 'We need three cups, one for you, one for me, and one for nanny,' 'look that's a big dog.' Talk about and help children to recognise basic shapes and patterns in the environment, 'look at the window, it is like a square.' Sing lots of number rhymes and use fingers to represent quantities. 'Show me one, two.'

Key Vocabulary:

- big
- small
- little
- numbers
- circle
- square
- triangle
- rectangle

Understanding of the World

Basic Knowledge:

I will learn that I have similarities and differences that connect me to and distinguish me from others I will use pictures to talk about my family. I will use books to explore how all families are different. I will show an interest in the lives of people who are familiar to me by sharing objects in their 'me bag' I will use my senses to explore collections of natural materials

How to help:

Look at photographs of friends and family members and talk about similarities and differences e.g. 'You have blonde hair but daddy has black hair'. 'Mummy is tall and nanny is taller' 'You have blue eyes and long curly hair'. 'Your brother has blue eyes like you but short red hair.' Share stories together. Look at pictures and talk about how we all have different needs, likes/dislikes and interests.

Key Vocabulary:

- same
- different
- curly hair
- long hair
- straight hair
- blue eyes
- green eyes
- brown hair
- skin tone



Expressive Arts and Design

Basic Knowledge:

I will engage in role-play with other children
I will help myself to different craft resources, paint, glue, chalks, crayons, paper
I will use pens and paint to make marks on paper



How to help:

Join in your child's play and model playing imaginatively. i.e. would you like a cup of tea? 'I will just put the washing in the machine'. Act out completing everyday jobs.

Key Vocabulary:

- Play
- Sound
- Taking turns
- Friends