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Together we **learn, grow** and **dream**

Butterflies Nursery: Half-Termly Curriculum Snapshot

Welcome to our Learning Journey!

Welcome back to Butterflies! We hope you all enjoyed a restful break and are ready for another exciting half term of learning, play and discovery together. As we move into spring, the children will have lots of opportunities to explore the changes happening around them and develop their natural curiosity about the world. This overview is designed to give you a snapshot of the purposeful and engaging learning experiences planned for the half term and how these will support your child's development across all areas of learning.

This half term, our topic is **“What can we discover in spring?”** Through hands-on experiences such as planting seeds, observing eggs hatch into chicks, and exploring seasonal changes, the children will learn about growth, care and new life. We will also be celebrating special events including Chinese New Year, Mother's Day and Easter, supporting children to talk about family, traditions and celebrations. As always, learning will be rooted in play, curiosity and real-life experiences, helping children to build confidence, language and a sense of wonder about the world around them.

Our Learning this Half-Term

Communication and Language

Key Learning Focus:

To listen attentively in a range of situations, ask questions and listen to the response, follow one-step and two-step instructions, and extend vocabulary by exploring the meaning and sounds of new words.

How we will learn:

Children will develop their communication skills through shared stories, songs, rhymes and real-life experiences linked to spring. They will learn and use new vocabulary related to planting, seasonal change and caring for chicks, such as *seed*, *grow*, *hatch* and *chick*. Through small-group discussions, role play and hands-on exploration, children will be encouraged to ask questions, share ideas and talk about what they notice. We will continue to use Makaton signs alongside spoken language to support communication and inclusion for all children.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Key Learning Focus:

To develop confidence, build positive relationships, understand and manage emotions, and show care and respect for others and the environment.

How we will learn:

Children will develop empathy and responsibility by helping to care for plants and by learning about how living things grow and change. Through discussions about families and celebrations such as Mother's Day, children will be supported to talk about relationships and feelings. Group activities will encourage turn-taking, sharing and cooperation, while adults support children to manage emotions such as excitement, curiosity and patience during shared learning experiences.

Physical Development

Key Learning Focus:

To develop fine and gross motor skills, build strength and coordination, and begin to manage personal care routines independently.

How we will learn:

Children will strengthen fine motor skills through planting seeds, handling tools, creating spring and Easter crafts and engaging in mark making. Gross motor skills will be developed through outdoor play, movement activities and acting out animal movements linked to spring. Children will practise good hygiene routines, including handwashing after outdoor and planting activities, and will be encouraged to develop independence when managing coats and outdoor clothing.

Literacy

Key Learning Focus:

To enjoy listening to stories, understand that print carries meaning, and begin to make marks to represent ideas and experiences.

How we will learn:

Children will listen to and explore a range of spring-themed fiction and non-fiction books, including books about plants, animals and seasonal change. They will be encouraged to talk about pictures and new information they discover. Mark making opportunities will support children to draw and record their ideas, such as pictures of plants, flowers and spring scenes. Role play and storytelling opportunities will help children retell experiences and stories using their own words.

Mathematics

Key Learning Focus:

To develop early counting skills, explore quantity, and use mathematical language related to size, pattern and change.

How we will learn:

Children will practise counting through meaningful experiences such as counting seeds, flowers and natural objects. They will compare size, height and growth over time as plants change, using language such as *bigger*, *smaller* and *taller*. Pattern and shape will be explored through creative activities linked to Easter and Chinese New Year, while sorting and matching natural materials will support early mathematical thinking.

Understanding the World 🌍

Key Learning Focus:

To explore the natural world, observe seasonal changes, learn about living things, and begin to understand similarities and differences in people and celebrations.

How we will learn:

Children will explore changes in the environment as we move into spring, noticing weather, plants and new growth. They will learn about how living things grow and what they need to stay healthy through planting and caring for the environment. Celebrations such as Chinese New Year and Easter will support children's understanding of different traditions and special times, helping them to recognise similarities and differences between experiences.

Expressive Arts and Design 🎨

Key Learning Focus:

To explore creativity through art, music, movement and imaginative play, and to express ideas and feelings in different ways.

How we will learn:

Children will explore colour, texture and materials through spring-themed artwork, including painting, collage and using natural resources. They will create patterns and decorations linked to Easter and Chinese New Year. Imaginative play will be encouraged through role play linked to gardens, homes and outdoor experiences, while songs, rhymes and music will support children to express themselves creatively.

Our Curriculum 'Golden Threads' ✨

Global Citizenship: We are nurturing global citizens in Butterflies. We continue to link our learning to the Global Goals for Sustainable Development as *golden threads* throughout our curriculum. Last term, the children were introduced to **Global Goal 12 – Responsible Consumption**. This half term, we will be exploring **Global Goal 15 – Life on Land**, through activities such as planting seeds, caring for plants and learning about how living things grow and change. Children will begin to understand the importance of looking after the natural world and develop respect for the environment around them.



Supporting Learning at Home 🏠

We've put together a short [home learning sheet](#) with some simple, fun ideas linked to our topic this half term. These activities are completely optional and are designed to fit easily into everyday family life through talking, playing, and sharing stories together.

We believe in a strong partnership between home and school. Please do not hesitate to speak to us if you have any questions or would like further ideas on how to support learning at home.

Best wishes,

The Butterflies Team - Mrs Crawford, Ms Brelsford, Miss Power and Mrs Whittaker

Wincham Community Primary School and Nursery