

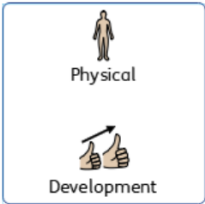




## Saplings Summer 1 2025-2026

At the Farm and other Amazing Animals	
 <p>Communication and Language</p>	<p><b><i>Listening and Attention &amp; Speaking</i></b></p> <p><i>Children work daily on their individual 'PLP' Communication targets, and build literacy Skills through: daily phonics work, reading, sensory stories, poems, and songs. Children also have weekly intensive interaction and Attention Autism sessions, peer play and tac pac sessions. Communication is developed through use of a Total Communication Approach. Children's skills and understanding supported through teaching of Makaton and use of objects of reference and a range of visuals, including choice and communication boards.</i></p> <p>Our Key Makaton signs that we will be learning this half-term are: farm, farmer, animals, dog, cat, cow, sheep, pig, duck, horse, goose, chicken. The children will also have the opportunity later in the term to learn how to sign their favourite zoo animal such as; elephant, giraffe, zebra, monkey, rhino and many more.</p>
 <p>Personal, Social and Emotional Development</p>	<p><b><i>Building Relationships, Self-regulation &amp; Managing Self</i></b></p> <p><i>Throughout the year we will be focusing on making relationships, developing self-confidence and self-regulation skills, and managing feelings and behaviour. Daily opportunities to develop social, independence and organisational skills are provided through use of visual support/communication support, TEACCH, continuous provision.</i></p> <p>Life-skills we will be focusing on this half-term are: Hair and teeth brushing and early dressing and feeding skills. As we will be learning about animals this half-term, the children will be looking at how to keep safe when looking after them and will focus on hand washing skills and how to wash, chop and prepare vegetables that might be fed to farm animals.</p> <p>We will also be looking at learning how to share and taking turns using the Thrive approach.</p>



### *Gross Motor Skills & Fine Motor Skills*

Gross motor- In outdoor area develop climbing, running, hopping, skipping skills, use of scooters/trikes etc. Each child will attend weekly sessions in interaction room (soft play) and have a weekly PE session on a Tuesday.

Fine motor - Holding writing tools effectively in preparation for writing - encouraging tripod grip, using different small tools, including scissors, paintbrushes and cutlery.

PE Focus this half term: Games and ball skills with Super Ball Paul! This half-term, the children in Saplings are lucky enough to have Super Ball Paul for PE and will be learning lots of different ball skills including; dribbling, shooting, passing, throwing over and under arm. Once the children have developed their ball skills, they will be encouraged to practise these in a range of activities and games. All staff will be present during these lessons so that the children have support from a number of adults to help encourage and support them.

During our 'At the Farm and Amazing Animals' topic, The children will also look at exploring moving in different ways like their favourite animals do and copying actions from the action songs linked to our topic).

Use of tools - Exploring and using a range of cutlery including knives, forks and spoons, making marks with a range of mark making equipment whilst developing their pincer grip.

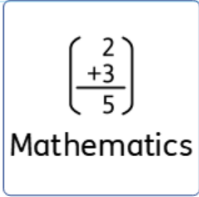




### *Comprehension, Word Reading & Writing*

Children will work on their individual Literacy 'PLP' targets and will be provided with daily reading and mark-making opportunities. They will access daily phonics sessions to develop their early reading and writing skills and explore sensory stories during our daily Literacy sessions. They will then complete group and individual activities linked to the stories to help develop their comprehension skills.

The sensory stories we will be exploring this half-term are:

- Old Mc Donald
- A squash and a Squeeze
- Farmer Duck
- Dear Zoo

	<p>-The children will also be learning about Noah's Ark during our weekly RE story time sessions. During this time, they will have the opportunity to listen to the story, explore the props from the story, learn about the different animals that Noah cared for during the flood and learn the song 'The Animals go Marching Two by Two'. They will also have the opportunity to complete lots of activities linked to the story.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Number &amp; Numerical Patterns</i></p> <p>Children will develop their number skills through structured daily math sessions, play and hands on practical activities. Daily number work will also be developed through continuous Provision activities which will be modelled to the children by staff. Children will also be supported daily with their individual Maths 'PLP' targets.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Our Focus in Maths this half term is:</p> <p>Exploring numbers and counting. During this time, the children will practise ordering number to 5 (10 when they are ready for it) make groups of 1 or more, find the total and explore different amounts of animals. During the second part of the term, the children will learn how to group animals into categories based on the type of animal they are and create repeating patterns using their favourite farm animals. The children will also be exploring measurement further and will look at big and small animals and compare them.</p> <p>Key vocabulary will include; order, group, same, different, 1 more, 1 less, how many/ total, patter, big and small.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Past and Present, People, Culture and Communities, The Natural World</i></p> <p>This half - term the children will focus on People, culture and communities and will describe their immediate environment using knowledge from observation, discussion, stories and non-fiction texts. They will learn about some similarities and differences between different religious and cultural communities in this country, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class. The children will also be provided with opportunities to use different programs throughout the curriculum i.e. on the computer, interactive whiteboard, iPad, cause and effect toys and switch toys to develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of technology.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Focus Activities to be explored this half - term will include:</p> <p>The children will be learning about different animals that live on the farm and the role the farmer plays in looking after them. They will have the opportunity to learn about the different places on the farm that the animals live in, what they like to eat and how they are looked after. The children will also be learning about the different farm</p>

	<p>animal's babies and will learn how to match picture of the mothers and their babies together based on their appearance During this term, the children will also have the opportunity to explore some real-life farm animals on our trip to the farm. As the term progress, the children will explore zoo animals and will have a visit from Gramps the tortoise and spend the morning looking after her in class.</p>
 <p>Expressive Arts and Design</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Creating with Materials &amp; Being imaginative and Expressive</i></b></p> <p><i>Children will learn about media and materials, thinking about use and purpose. They engage in a variety of messy play, arts and crafts, malleable play and musical activities on our current theme. They have opportunities to engage imaginatively and present their own ideas and feelings through art and design music, dance, role play and stories.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Focus Activities to be explored this half - term will include:</p> <p>The children will have the opportunity to learn a range of animal action songs and roleplay being farmers in our Saplings Farm. They will create a range of animal art work including animal masks and junk model animals. The children will look at animal prints and create animal art work inspired by these. The children will also rein act the story of Noah's Ark during our weekly RE sessions.</p>