

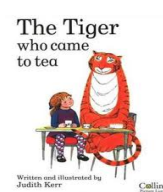
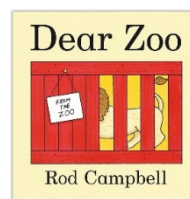
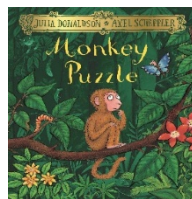
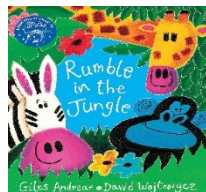
EYFS Newsletter Autumn term 2



Theme: Down in the Jungle!

This term, our EYFS theme is Down in the Jungle! The children will be embarking on a multi-sensory adventure, engaging in messy exploration with materials like moss and bark to recreate a jungle environment. We will learn all about exotic jungle animals and their unique habitats, comparing their hot, humid climate to our own. Learning will be active and fun as children develop their motor skills and creativity through role-play, movement, and music, trying to slither like a snake or swing like a monkey. We look forward to a vibrant and roaring good term!

Book opportunities:



These are some of the books we will be exploring, listening to and enjoying during this topic.

Reading and Writing:

Nursery

This term, we are building core communication skills by strengthening sound awareness (including body percussion and voice sounds) and exploring language through Rhythm, Rhyme, and Alliteration. We will significantly expand vocabulary through extended conversations about our jungle stories. For writing development, the emphasis is on fine motor control as children enjoy drawing freely.

Reception

We will continue our daily RWI sessions, focusing on recognising single letter sounds and mastering oral blending and segmenting. This progress will allow children to read and write simple CVC words and begin to explore basic sentence writing and structure. In addition, we are refining name writing and letter formation. Communication is key, so we will focus on re-telling, planning parts of stories, and engaging in conversations that encourage children to ask relevant questions about what they read.

Maths:

Nursery

In Maths this term, we are building core number awareness and spatial understanding. We will focus on early counting skills, practising ordering number names (1, 2, 3...) and associating them with quantity through activities like "Show me 1, 2, 3." Children will also be actively exploring concepts of position and space by navigating different routes and using positional language (e.g., over, under, next to).

Reception

Our main Maths focus is achieving a deep understanding of numbers 1-5, including subitising and the composition of numbers. We will practice object counting within 10 and matching numerals. We will also explore 2D shapes (circles, triangles, squares, rectangles), looking at them in the environment, and introduce early concepts of measure and pattern, including ordering the days of the week.

Physical development:

Communication and language:

We are prioritising motor skills essential for literacy. Nursery will focus on building fine motor strength for writing readiness, while Reception concentrates on securing a strong pencil grip for neat letter formation. Our P.E. lessons will focus on listening to instructions, negotiating space, and exploring varied movement (perfect for our jungle theme!).	In Nursery, we are building essential skills by focusing on active listening and rapidly expanding vocabulary through themed conversations and stories. For Reception, the focus shifts to following multi-step instructions and using fuller sentences to offer explanations and ideas. Crucially, both groups are encouraged to ask relevant questions and speak confidently about their learning and the world around them.
Expressive Arts and Design: The children will immerse themselves in the jungle through imaginative movement and music, practising moving and making the noises of different animals. We will engage in various crafts, making animal masks and using natural materials for art, such as leaf printing. Finally, as the term concludes, we'll begin practising for our special Christmas singalong!	Understanding the world: This term, we are investigating jungle animal habitats and life cycles, using sensory tubs, and comparing the hot jungle to our local environment. We will look at important issues like deforestation and recycling ("Save our Jungle!"). Finally, we'll connect our learning to wider culture by exploring rainforest tribes and celebrating the season with the Journey to Bethlehem and traditional Christmas smells.
Suggested home learning activities: • Listen to jungle animal sounds online (or make your own!) and try to copy them. Can you make a long, hissing sound like a snake, or a loud roar like a lion? • Play a simple game of hide-and-seek with a favourite toy jungle animal. Use positional words like under, on top of, behind, and next to, to help your grown-up find it. • Collect natural materials (twigs, small leaves, grass) on a walk and glue them onto paper to make a simple jungle picture. This is brilliant for building fine motor strength . • Read a jungle-themed picture book. Focus on the rhyming words and clap or tap the beat of the rhymes together. • Go on a treasure hunt around the house or garden to find items that have simple CVC names (like pen, cup, log, rug). Say the word and sound it out together (c-u-p) • Choose a number up to 5. Go outside and find that many things (e.g., 5 stones). Can you also find everyday objects that are a circle or a triangle? • Mark making • Reading stories together (library books) • Letter formation (Reception) • Reading 3x a week (Reception) – If brought a phonics book home • Work in homework books (Reception) • Weekly RWI phonics link on class dojo (Reception)	