



# Reception Topic Overview – Autumn Term

## Expressive Arts and Design

- Imaginative play about people who help us
- Identifying sounds made by different instruments
- Joining in with action rhymes
- Acting out and learning the words of traditional rhymes

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Making new friends and learning their names
- Becoming familiar with new class routines
- Displaying high levels of concentration during activities
- Gaining independence in the classroom
- Thinking about how we learn

## Mathematics

- Finding and making flat shapes
- Learning the names of solid shapes like cube, cone, cylinder and sphere
- Counting forwards and backwards from different numbers
- Recognising and beginning to write numbers
- Making patterns using beads, paint and other resources

## Physical Development

- Getting changed for PE
- Using a knife and fork
- Being aware of space and other children when moving quickly in the playground and in the hall
- Using small equipment like balls and skipping ropes

**Here I Am!**

**People Who Help Us**

## Understanding of the World

- Helping our friends and families
- Visiting people who help us around the school
- Visit from the Fire Station
- Road safety
- Using the computer room
- Using construction toys to make fire engines, ladders and other models
- Learning about the languages we all speak at home

## Communication, Language and Literacy

- Correctly forming each letter of their name
- Beginning to hear sounds in words
- Beginning to learn the names and sounds of letters of the alphabet
- Reading individually and in groups
- Independently writing for fun
- Making books
- Learning the difference between words and letters
- Beginning to recognise some Reception key words
- Sit quietly and listen during group activities
- Listen to and share ideas and feelings



# Reception Topic Overview – Spring Term

## Expressive Art and Design

- Making musical instruments
- Dancing to different styles of music
- Making lanterns, masks, dragons and fans for Chinese New Year
- Action songs
- Making music using body parts and instruments
- Thinking about what they want to construct and how they can make it better

## Personal, Social and Emotional development

- Sharing and taking turns when playing together
- Personal hygiene like washing hands after going to the toilet
- Displaying high levels of concentration during activities
- Talking about and acting out how the characters feel in stories we read
- Gaining independence in the classroom
- Trying to resolve problems independently

## Mathematics

- Learning the names and the order of the days of the week
- Practicing writing numbers 0 to 10 correctly
- Counting rhymes
- Describing 2D and 3D shapes
- Using everyday words to describe position
- Ordinal numbers like 1st, 2nd, and 3rd
- Counting 1 more than and 1 less than a number from 1–10
- Adding and taking away

**Frozen in Time  
POW!**

## Physical Development

- Getting changed for PE
- Using larger equipment like the parachute
- Using small equipment (bats with balls) with more accuracy and control
- Dragon Dance for Chinese New Year
- Developing increasing hand control using pencils, scissors and chopsticks
- Making models using various construction toys and different joining materials

## Communication, Language and Literacy

- Increasing vocabulary linked to the topics
- Talking in sentences and asking clearly for what we want
- Continuing to learn the names and sounds of letters of the alphabet
- Beginning to hear sounds in words
- Learning to read new key words and making sentences
- Reading individually and in groups
- Independently writing for fun
- Write own name forming letters correctly
- Retelling stories and thinking of alternative endings.
- Using WOW words (descriptive words) to describe things

## Understanding of the World

- Investigating how sounds are made
- Making different types of sound
- Matching sounds with shakers
- Playing different instruments to make loud and quiet sounds
- Making maps of our journey to school
- Describing different textures
- Learning about celebrations in different families and cultures
- Talking about their own culture and or religion



# Reception Topic Overview – Summer Term

## Expressive Art and Design

- Making animal paper mache models and animal prints
- Role play area as a jungle
- Designing a dinosaur poster
- Learning songs about animals
- Using imagination in dance

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Working independently
- Reinforcing appropriate behaviour in and out of class
- Sharing resources and taking turns
- Talking about ourselves and things that are important to their families

## Mathematics

- Counting to 20
- Practical addition and take away, by counting or number line
- Recognising and using coins
- Problem solving maths activities
- Learning about half past/ quarter past on the time
- Sharing and halving
- Doubling amounts

**Brown Bear,  
Brown Bear  
what can  
you see....?**

## Physical Development

- Using large apparatus
- Moving like animals
- Practising races
- Sports Day
- Exploring different dance styles

## Communication, Language and Literacy

- Talking about our visit to the zoo
- Talking about the visit from the farm
- Writing letters, shopping lists and invitations
- Making and reading sentences using common words
- Practicing correct letter formation
- Using information books to find interesting facts about animals
- Blending and segmenting our sounds

## Understanding of the World

- Learning about the life cycle of a caterpillar
- Investigating features of different animals
- Talking about our trip to Colchester Zoo
- Learning about the cultures, beliefs and traditions of our friends
- Finding out about the different countries we come from and animals come from
- Asking questions about animals