



# What a Wonderful World!



Summer 1  
2024/2025

During the Summer Term, our first topic will be 'What a Wonderful World'. We will be learning all about where we live. To support this, we will use Google Earth to begin at our school and gradually zoom out into space, discussing what we can see along the way. We will explore key landmarks and cities, and consider what the different colours and shapes might represent.

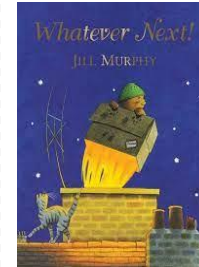
One of our favourite books to read this half-term will be 'Whatever Next', where we venture into space and learn about planets, stars, moons, and more! As well as learning about our own world, we will also be comparing similarities and differences between where we live and other countries around the world.



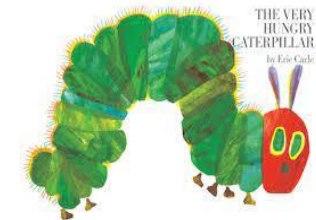
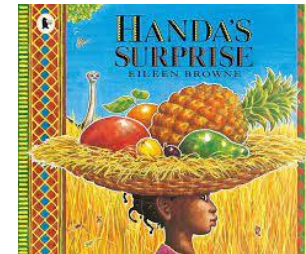
We will be studying animals and their habitats, including creatures who live under the sea. Additionally, we will be learning about the life cycle of a butterfly. We are hoping to have our own caterpillars in the classroom, allowing us to observe the key stages of the butterfly life cycle first-hand. This will help us to begin to understand the importance of respecting and caring for the natural environment and all living things.



To support our learning of these different topics we will be reading a range of key texts that link closely to our theme 'What a Wonderful World!'



- The Very Hungry Caterpillar
- The Undersea Cleaning Spree
  - The Enormous Turnip
  - Handa's Surprise
  - Lost and Found
  - Whatever Next!
  - Tiddler





# Rhyme of the Day



*"Experts in literacy and child development have discovered that if children know eight nursery rhymes by heart by the time, they're four years old, they're usually among the best readers by the time they're eight." - Mem Fox, Reading Magic.*

In Nursery we have a Nursery Rhyme of the day which we all sing together during the session. This Nursery Rhyme is changed each half term and encourages the children to develop their listening skills as well as increasing their awareness of rhyme.

Many of our rhymes include numbers too which support children to embed their early Mathematical knowledge even further.



Our Nursery Rhymes this half term are:

Monday - Incy Wincy Spider!

Tuesday - Down at the Station!

Wednesday - Hey, Diddle Diddle!

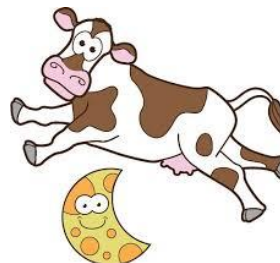
Thursday - Mary, Mary Quite Contrary!

Friday - Jack and Jill!



Please encourage your child to sing these with you at home as well as watch the familiar rhyme videos on the link.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/#tabnametabNurseryRhymesVideos>



# Foundations for a Love of Reading

## Sharing books in Nursery

Sharing books is one of the single most important things that you can do with your child. By regularly looking at books and talking about them with your child, you will have a huge, positive impact on your child's reading in Reception and beyond. Indeed, studies have shown that a love of reading is the single biggest indicator of future academic success.

### Sharing and talking about books helps your child to:

- understand words and sentences
- use a wide range of vocabulary
- develop listening and comprehension skills:

While this will help them at school, it will also develop their empathy, increase their understanding of the world around them, and strengthen your bond with them.

Little Wandle Foundations for a Love of Reading supports Nursery practitioners to ensure all children develop a love of books. Read on to find out how you can help at home!

Parental involvement in the development of children's reading skill: A five-year longitudinal study. (2002) Sénéchal, M. and LeFevre, J.



## Does the type of book matter?

- Let your child be the boss of the books they choose. Their enjoyment is what really matters.
- Comics, information books, magazines, story books, picture books, poems and leaflets are all great for sharing.
- Catalogues are fun to share and talk about, too.

## What if they always want to read the same book?

- Repeated reading of books is really beneficial for children. It helps them memorise parts of the story, words and phrases, too.
- Knowing a book or poem by heart is fun and powerful for children. They can 'read' the story with you, or join in with individual words or phrases.
- If you really want to mix it up, offer another book alongside the much-loved favourite!

## Does it matter how I read with my child?

- Studies show that it is the enjoyment and chat that matters.
- The more you chat together about the book and the things that interest your child, the more impact it has.
- You don't even have to read the words on the page - talking about the pictures is just as important.

## Does it matter which language I use?

- Use your home language - it is better for your child to hear expert talk from you in your language.
- Many studies tell us that it is the back-and-forth talk between adults and children when they are sharing books that makes the difference to children's language and comprehension.
- This impact will translate to better language and comprehension skills for your child in English.





## Communication & Language

Our aim this half term is to continue to enhance our areas further in nursery to support children's speaking and listening skills. We will do this through stories, our continuous provision and role play areas, as well as the use of visuals and modelling key language to the children.

During our carpet sessions and through our play, we will be continuing to develop our listening and attention skills as well as singing a wide range of familiar songs.



## Personal, Social and Emotional Development



We will be encouraging children to develop their independence with toileting, washing hands, and putting on/taking off their coats. Children will be encouraged to develop their sharing and turn taking with their peers when playing. We will continue to do our daily emotional check ins and discussing the reasons we might be feeling a certain way.

During this half term, we will be having lots of new friends join us in Nursery! We are very excited to get to know them and welcome them to our Nursery as well as teaching them all the key rules and routines we follow in Nursery. Our Topic this half term allows us to understand how important it is to look after ourselves and the world around us and how we can successfully do this.

## Physical Development



We are always busy in Nursery developing both our gross motor and fine motor skills.

We will be using all of our PE equipment outside to set up a range of physical activities for the children to explore. These include balancing, throwing and jumping.

We have our 'funky fingers' station in Nursery which is set up with activities that will support the children's development of their fine motor skills. These activities include threading, using tweezers and lots more!





# Literacy

During our carpet sessions, we will continue to build on our Foundations for Phonics by following our Little Wandle scheme of work. We will be introducing new sounds and encouraging the children to independently listen and identify the initial sounds of different objects.

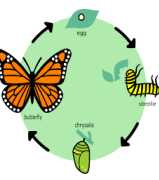
This half term, we will continue our daily name writing to support the children who are moving to Reception in the Autumn Term. We will work on pencil grip and forming letter shapes that they see in their name.

We will be reading a range of key texts that will enhance our Topic as well as continuing to provide different opportunities for children to access a range of mark making materials.



# Understanding the World

This Topic enables us to explore the world we live in through various avenues. During our sessions, we will be looking at maps of our local area and the world. We will also be looking at how we can care for our world and the creatures that live on it. The children will be taught all about the key features of a butterfly life cycle and will get to explore this through their own observations.



# Expressive Arts and Design

With a continued focus on communication, we will continue to have regularly updated role play and small world areas for the children to explore and develop their imaginary play skills. The children will be encouraged to take on different roles and develop a storyline within their play.

We will be continuing with our daily rhyme time and familiar songs that are embedded within our routines at Nursery. We will also be learning 'There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf' song and performing this to our Parents/Carers via SeeSaw.

The children will have a range of opportunities to get creative by making their own planets and rockets out of junk modelling and a range of creative resources.



# Maths

This half term we will be consolidating our knowledge of numbers to 5 by singing a range of number rhymes, using our fingers to identify amounts, subitising and practising our counting skills. We will begin to learn how to solve real life problems using basic addition and subtraction. We will be using concrete resources to support our understanding of this.

