

St Mary's RC Primary School

Nursery - What I Am Learning – Spring 1: What Is Growing All Around Us? Life Cycles

Texts: *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle, *Jasper's Beanstalk* by Mick Inkpen and *Lola Plants a Garden* by Anna McQuinn

Area of Learning	Activities	Area of Learning	Activities
Communication and Language	To continue to develop our communication and language this half term we will learn new vocabulary stemming from our focus texts. We will continue to join in rhymes and stories that are familiar to us. We will have great discussions focused around chicks and caterpillars including all about their lifecycles and how we can care for them! This will help us to develop our question skills including how and why questions as we will have the opportunity to observe real caterpillars turning into butterflies! We will continue to have conversations around a range of characters from the stories we read.	Mathematics	We will continue to work hard on number recognition and representation. Children will become more fluent in subitising and recalling numbers 1-5. We will also explore 2D and 3D shapes and incorporate them into our construction and modelling activities.
Physical Development	We will continue to develop our gross motor skills using the climbing frames and outdoor provision. Basic PE movements such as hopping, standing on one leg, balancing and jogging will be enhanced through our Write Dance programme. We will also continue to explore and build confidence on our nursery bikes and scooters.	Understanding the World	This half term we will be discussing how to care for ourselves and others. We will be planting our own seeds and taking care of them to make sure they grow! We will also be planting lots of wonderful seeds in our nursery garden and taking care of them over a longer period of time. We will have the opportunity to care for our very own nursery caterpillars and discuss their life cycle along with the life cycle and changes over time of chicks.
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	This half term we will be looking at how to keep ourselves and others healthy. We will be discussing the difference between healthy and unhealthy foods. We will also be continuing to learn how to look after ourselves along with taking care of other living things such as chicks and caterpillars. We will even have the opportunity to look after our very own nursery caterpillars!	Expressive Arts and Design	We will have lots of exciting chick, butterfly, and life cycle and Easter craft this half term! We will continue to explore music outside using instruments and singing relevant chicken/caterpillar/frog songs, working hard to keep a steady beat! We will also be exploring symmetry and pattern in butterflies.
Literacy	This half term we will be introduced to lots of new vocabulary in nursery. We will look at different fiction and non-fiction texts and have plenty of opportunities for discussion. We will continue Write Dance and develop our fine and gross motor skills during a range of relevant mark making opportunities based around our texts. We will also begin to work	Outdoor Provision	We will continue to access our outdoor area throughout each day where we can access our bikes, mud kitchen, climbing frame, construction opportunities, sand, music, role play and the bug hotel. The large outdoor sand area will be open during this half term.

*When working on our text, we always try to select a story that the children may not have seen before we do not read the whole story initially. We work on the text over the course of the half term, and unpick each section, our focused activities and challenges are based upon the part of the story we are working on to keep an element of surprise and suspense. If you do wish to read the story at home with your child, please could you do so once we have completed our topic and text work. Many thanks.

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	on hearing initial sounds to use the Read Write Inc phonics scheme. We will continue to spot and suggest rhymes.		
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