

Reception Curriculum Statement: Farms

In Summer 1 term, children explore the topic of Farms to build early understanding of the natural world, food production, and life cycles. Through hands-on experiences, stories, role play, and outdoor learning, children develop curiosity about animals, crops, and the people who care for them. This topic supports key areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), including Communication and Language, Understanding the World, Personal, Social and Emotional Development, and Expressive Arts and Design.

What children will learn

- **Animals and their young** — Children learn to name common farm animals, correctly name their young, and talk about how they are cared for.
- **Seasonal changes and growth** — Children observe how plants grow, explore crops, and understand that food comes from farms.
- **People who help us** — Children learn about the role of farmers and the importance of looking after animals and the environment.
- **Life cycles** — Through activities such as planting seeds and hatching and observing chicks, children begin to understand simple life cycles.
- **Materials and machinery** — Children explore tractors, tools, and equipment used on farms.
- **Literacy**- Children will write daily farm based 'I can see' sentences to help support their progress towards the writing early learning goal. Children will progress into phase 4 phonics learning, home learning sheets will be shared weekly as normal.
- **Maths**- Children will count forwards and backwards to 20, continue working on the composition of numbers to 10, will be looking at weight, length and capacity through practical activities and will be exploring 2D shapes.

How learning will take place

- **Storybooks and non-fiction texts** to build vocabulary and comprehension
- **Small-world play** with farm animals and models to encourage imaginative storytelling
- **Outdoor learning** such as planting potatoes, caring for the strawberry plants, planting seeds and observing nature,
- **Visit** to a working farm to deepen real-world understanding
- **Creative activities** including painting animals, building barns, and singing farm-themed songs
- **Role play** in a farm shop setting to develop communication and social skills

Forest Schools- This term we will resume a weekly forest school session on Thursday afternoons. Please ensure children come equipped with suitable clothing. During forest schools we will explore: **Tree activities** such as identifying types of trees, exploring their life cycles, and observing seasonal changes in leaves. **Bird watching** Children will spend time spotting and identifying birds and making bird feeders and bird houses. **Bee learning** Children will celebrate National bee day. **Campfire cooking** we will be lighting the campfire to

cook various savoury foods and talking about fire safety. **Playtime** Children will all have time for child initiated imaginative play.

Curriculum impact

By the end of the topic, children will be able to talk confidently about farm animals, where food comes from, and the role of farmers. They will show increased curiosity about the natural world, use new vocabulary in play and conversation, and demonstrate early scientific thinking through observation, questioning, and care for living things including our hatching project.