

Suggested activities offered to relate to the topic alongside free flow provision providing opportunities and experiences in all EYFS subjects
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 Weekly planning shows more activity ideas and detail

Nursery - EYFS Yearly Curriculum Overview (2025-2026)

	Topic	Communication and Language	Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Physical Development	Literacy including suggested core books	Mathematics	Understanding the World	Expressive Arts and Design
Autumn 1	All about Me Children's Interests Observing seasonal changes  Key vocabulary	Circle time to get to know each other and adults in the class - talking about their likes and dislikes	To begin to become familiar with the school routine Circle time games to build relationships and listening skills. To begin to use vocabulary such as happy, sad, angry, worried to share and express their feelings. Introduction to zones of Self-Regulation	Exploring variety of play equipment to develop gross motor skills. Begin to mark make using different resources. Explore different movements.	Bug club pre-reception phonics (phase 1) Unit A Introduction to self-register with name cards. Children encouraged to find own peg and names on water bottles Enjoy listening to stories and start to join in. Owl Babies Who's in my family? The colour monster goes to school What will I be?	White rose maths units delivered throughout the year according to intake times. Provided through free flow and small group/ carpet sessions Suggested white rose maths units this term include - <i>Comparison 1</i> - More than, fewer than, same. <i>Shape space and measure 1</i> - explore and build with shapes and objects <i>Pattern 1</i> - explore repeats <i>Counting 1</i> - hear and say number names	All about me – children talk about themselves, their families Circle time to get to know each other and adults in the class – identifying similarities or differences	All about me – children draw self-portraits and family portraits Explore a range of materials and media available to them in the setting Engage in role play and to learn to play cooperatively

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Autumn 2	Colours all around us Children's Interests Observing seasonal changes  Key vocabulary	Listen to stories and learn new vocabulary To develop conversation skills – listening and responding to others Talk about events they celebrate Circle time	Celebrating cultural differences Share ideas on ways we can be kind to others – Friendship rules Circle time Regular use of zones of regulation – introducing the colours of the zones, incorporating this into the Nursery environment through activities and conversations (also read The Colour Monster)	Explore play equipment Safety awareness when negotiating space – climbing/using bikes Developing preference using right/left hand in mark-making Carrying out a range of fine motor activities	Bug club pre reception phonics (phase 1) Unit B Enjoy listening to stories and join in. 'Zim Zam Zoom' by James Carter (firework poetry week 1) 'Wow! Said the Owl' by Tim Hopgood 'Brown Bear Brown Bear What do you See?' by Eric Carle. Elmer by David McKee Literacy tree unit - The Polar Express	Suggested white rose maths units this term include - <i>Counting</i> 2 – begin to order number names <i>Subitising</i> 1 – I see 1,2,3 <i>Pattern</i> 2 – join in with repeats <i>Shape, space and measure</i> 2 – explore position and space	Understand cultural differences and festivals that people celebrate – learn about festivals through stories, songs and circle times Bonfire night Diwali Noticing these festivals celebrate with lots of colours World Kindness Day/Anti-Bullying week Christmas	Range of activities related to colours available during free flow activities Enjoy, listen and learn songs from around the world Role play areas to reflect Colours topic – Colourful Cafe, Colourful Building Site, Colourful Dress up Shop, Magical Colour Lab Use a range of different materials and mark-making tools to create Bonfire night/Firework scene and Rangoli patterns Exploring with Clay/salt dough – Make Clay/salt dough winter/Christmas decorations Christmas concert - Learn Christmas songs with actions and make Christmas props/decorations

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Spring 1	Bears Children's Interests Observing seasonal changes  Key vocabulary	Daily story times Weekly story focus Listen and pay attention to stories and learn new vocabulary related to our Bears topic Regular circle times Language rich environment Quality adult interactions with children	Zones of regulation used and discussed daily Regular circle times Range of engaging activities to encourage self-exploration and decision making Begin to understand how others might be feeling - Using books such as Goldilocks and the three bears to explore characters emotions Encourage and praise independent toilet use by all children	Explore full range of play equipment Create different types of movements/actions related to bear stories such as We're going on a bear hunt Continue to develop mark-making skills Outdoor environment providing range of activities to develop skill development	Bug club pre-reception phonics (phase 1) Unit C Retell stories about bears Enjoy listening to stories and join in. Weekly story focus - We're going on a bear hunt Whatever Next Goldilocks and the three bears	Suggested white rose maths units this term include - <i>Subitising</i> 2 – show me 1,2,3 <i>Counting</i> 3 – move and label 1,2,3 <i>Shapes, space and measure</i> 3 – explore position and routes <i>Pattern</i> 3 – explore patterns Providing maths related activities linked to stories	Find out facts about bears through stories and discussions Begin to explore and understand lifecycle of animals Explore habitats – to learn about different countries and animals including where bears live Chinese New Year 17th February Exploring seasonal changes – observing the weather daily	Engage in role play and to learn to play cooperatively – Bear cave? Teddy Bear picnic cafe? Offer opportunities for representing scenes from stories/characters e.g. bears. Ensure time for exploration and development of skills with range of resources.
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Spring 2	Things that Go! (Transport) Children's Interests Observing seasonal changes  Key vocabulary	Listen and pay attention to stories and learn new vocabulary related to topic Sharing and learning a range of stories and rhymes linked to Transport Circle time Language rich environment	Learning to be responsible in our environment and develop an awareness of nature/living things Zones of regulation embedded in environment. Exploring stories linked to feelings. Circle time	Safety when handling equipment such as gardening tools Planting seeds Continue to develop mark-making skills Actions related to transport – moving in different ways in the outdoor environment.	Bug club pre reception phonics (phase 1) Unit D Car Car Truck Jeep The Whales on the Bus Both by Katrina Charman You can't take an Elephant on Holiday by Patricia Cleveland-Peck (Also reading as a class and in small groups – Turn, Crank, Zoom and A Day on the Road by Eric Carle)	Suggested white rose maths units this term include - <i>Counting 4</i> – take and give 1,2,3 <i>Shape, space and measure 4</i> – match, talk, push, pull <i>Subitising 3</i> – talk about dots <i>Comparison 2</i> – compare and sort collections	To develop their curiosity about nature - Using our senses to explore nature in our environment, regular visits to the school garden Observe nature and talk about things they notice Exploring a range of modes of transport – looking at real life examples	Small world play – different modes of transport Using a range of media to represent transport and relevant scenes Transport songs and rhymes
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Summer 1	People Who Help Us Children's Interests Observing seasonal changes	Listen and pay attention to stories and learn new vocabulary related to topic Circle time Role play of different 'People Who Help Us' Adults introducing and modelling language related to different jobs. e.g. police, fire service, doctors, nurses etc. 'I wonder...' sentence activity	Familiar school routine Circle time games to build relationships and listening skills. Using vocabulary such as happy, sad, angry, worried to share and express their feelings. Zones of Self-Regulation Role play modelling 'People who help us' How does it feel to help someone?	Continue to develop physical skills – riding bikes, scooters and climbing Use a variety of objects in water for such as containers, jugs, pipettes Continue to develop mark-making skills Creative area offering range of tools and materials to strengthen fine motor skills. Large role play involving different jobs such as fire service – water hoses. large cardboard boxes for vehicles. What is your vehicle?	Bug club pre reception phonics (phase 1) Unit E Enjoy listening to stories and join in Retell stories Discuss favourite parts Clapping syllables in words	Suggested white rose maths units this term include - <i>Pattern 4</i> – lead on own repeats <i>Shape, space and measure 5</i> – start to puzzle <i>Pattern 5</i> – making patterns together <i>Subitising 4</i> – make games and actions	Plant and seeds observe growing. Observe seasonal changes – visit the school garden. Discuss and role play different occupations. Dentist curiosity cube. Circle time discussions.	Explore a range of materials, offering children activities such as making letters, pictures to post. Police/ambulance vehicles from junk modelling. Role play areas reflecting different occupations. Large cardboard boxes for vehicles. What is your vehicle?
	 Key vocabulary							

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Summer 2	Julia Donaldson stories Children's Interests Observing seasonal changes  Key vocabulary	Listen and pay attention to stories and learn new vocabulary related to topic To talk about what's happening in a story, make predictions and discuss favourite parts Circle time	Julia Donaldson stories – how are the characters feeling? Circle time Zones of regulation	Continue to develop physical skills – riding bikes, scooters and climbing Children set up obstacle courses Continue to develop mark-making skills – craft related to stories	Bug club pre reception phonics (phase 1) Unit F Enjoy listening to stories and join in Retell stories The Gruffalo Monkey Puzzle Snail and the Whale Smartest Giant in Town	Suggested white rose maths units this term include - <i>Counting</i> 5 – show me 5 <i>Pattern</i> 6 – my own pattern <i>Counting</i> 6 – stop at 1,2,3,4,5 <i>Comparison</i> 3 – match, sort, compare	Taking care of our playground plants and school garden Observing seasonal changes and life cycles of plants – sunflowers and strawberries Habitats in different stories	Retelling stories Imaginative play and songs linked to stories Craft linked to stories e.g. Gruffalo playdough
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Activity ideas above are a sample of tasks adults might carry out with children individually or in groups. Adults are also led by the children's interests; therefore activities and tasks will vary with each cohort.

Literacy tree units are introduced from Autumn 1 onwards.

Lambeth EYFS SACRE guidance and units followed by both Nursery and Reception classes.

Festival and Celebrations are observed when they occur within the terms.

Seasons are also observed as they occur.