Early Years Foundation Stage Areas of Learning

Understanding The World (The Natural World)

Children at the expected level of development will:

* Explore the natural world around them, making observations and drawing pictures of animals and plants;
* Know some similarities and differences between the natural world around them and contrasting environments, drawing on their experiences and what has been read in class;
* Understand some important processes and changes in the natural world around them, including the seasons and changing states of matter.

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| Reception Class Science Links |
| Animals | * Name and describe animals that live in different habitats
* Describe different habitats
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| Humans | * Describe people who are familiar to them
* Learn about how to take care of themselves
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| Living things and their habitats | * Explore the plants in the surrounding natural environment
* Explore the animals in the surrounding natural environment
* Explore plants and animals in a contrasting natural environment
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| Seasonal changes | * Play and explore outside in all seasons and in different weather
* Observe living things throughout the year
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| Materials, including changing materials | * Explore a range of materials, including natural materials
* Make objects from different materials, including natural materials
* Observe, measure and record how materials change when heated
* and cooled
* Compare how materials change over time and in different conditions
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| Light | * Explore shadows
* Explore rainbows
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| Forces | * Explore how to change how things work
* Explore how the wind can move objects
* Explore how objects move in water
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| Sound | * Listen to sounds outside and identify the source
* Make sounds
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| Earth and space | * Learn about the Solar System and stars
* Learn about space trave
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