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 |
| Humans | * Describe people who are familiar to them * Learn about how to take care of themselves |
| 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 |
| Seasonal changes | * Play and explore outside in all seasons and in different weather * Observe living things throughout the year |
| 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 |
| Light | * Explore shadows * Explore rainbows |
| Forces | * Explore how to change how things work * Explore how the wind can move objects * Explore how objects move in water |
| Sound | * Listen to sounds outside and identify the source * Make sounds |
| Earth and space | * Learn about the Solar System and stars * Learn about space trave |