



Moorside Community Primary Academy - Theme Overview

Year: Nursery Term: Spring 1 Theme: Watch Me Grow



Key Learning

1	Plants	The life cycle of a plant, the correct basic vocabulary. What do plants need to grow? Do different living conditions affect how they grow?
2	Butterflies	Butterfly life cycle. How butterflies help humans. What butterflies need to survive.
3	Frogs	Frog life cycle. What do frogs eat? Where do they live? How do they survive?
4	Humans	Human life cycle. How do we live a healthy lifestyle? Different family structures.
5	Insects (stick insects)	Life cycle, how do they survive? Where do they live?
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Key People/Places/Facts

1	Growing	Not just humans but plants and animals move through a life cycle.
2	Health	All living creatures need certain conditions/food/environment to survive. Differences in these conditions create a difference in their growth.
3	Names of different flowers	Sunflowers, cress, tulips, roses, weeds, trees, bushes etc.
4	Forest School	The children will frequently visit the forest school to discuss the importance of looking after the environment
5	Sensory Garden	The children will frequently visit the sensory garden to observe plant growth and create artwork.
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Big Questions

1	What do we need to live a healthy life?	What can we do to help bees, butterflies etc.?
2	What happens if we do not try to stay healthy?	What do you do to make yourself feel happy?
3	Will plants grow in the dark?	

Vocabulary

Leaf	Teenager
Root	Infant
Stem	Eggs
Branch	Tadpole
Bark	
Petal	
Cocoon	
Antennae	
Frog spawn	

Communication and Language

During this term, the Nursery children will be working on broadening their vocabulary by using words relating to plant/animal parts, life cycles and health. This will be taught through whole class and key person time, stories, small group work and 1-1 activities relating to life cycles.

- The provision is set up to target this area by having the role-play set up as a Farm shop displaying vocabulary. The writing area will contain vocabulary to experiment with and the creative area will display picture along with vocabulary.

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WELCOMM intervention continues.

Literacy

Reading/Phonics

- As well as usual phonics sessions, phonics assessments will be completed to ensure children are in correct groupings. Intervention groups will be created from this.
- 1-1 reading and small groups of shared reading will continue, identifying different phonic sounds, inferring from pictures and segmenting and blending cvc words (only Reception level chn)
- Chn will listen to a range of stories, discussing story structure, blurb, writer and illustrator and interesting vocabulary.
- Counting clapping syllables in a word, such as names etc.

Writing

- Name writing intervention continues weekly.
- Practising letter formation through descriptions of flowers, animals etc.
- Drawing different shapes, which help to support letter formations.

Phonics interventions
Readers

Understand the World

- The chn will be provided with a range of opportunities to be hands on in the environment around them in the forest school and Sensory garden. These visits will be used to support the learning of plants this term.
- Different materials will be explored and gathered. The chn will be shown and then asked to group these materials dependant on natural or man-made (at a basic level) and introduced to vocabulary that highlights similarities and differences of materials such as bark, petals, grasses, seeds, rocks.
- The chn will understand the key features of life cycles including plants and animals, and explain the concepts of growth and decay, whilst demonstrating how to maintain their health.

Year: Nursery
Term:
Summer 1
Topic: Watch
Me Grow

Weekly Themes: Plants, Butterflies, Frogs, Humans, Insects

Expressive Arts and Creativity

- Chn will collect a range of natural materials and will be encouraged to think of different ways in which we can use them in the classroom, perhaps in artwork etc. Could they combine them with classroom materials and design something? Do they need to be supported or can they do this independently?

Physical Development

- Using one-handed tools such as trowels to plant seeds and scissors to cut out life cycle pictures.
- Increasing independence putting coats on and doing zips, going to the toilet, handwashing.
- Pencil grip assessments will be done to determine grip and dominant hand.

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Making healthy choices concerning food and fitness linking to life cycles of plants and animals.
- Increasingly follow rules and understand why they are important. This is to keep everybody safe, happy and learning.
- Remember some rules without needing to be reminded e.g. walking feet indoors, hands up to speak, gentle hands etc.
- Developing their sense of responsibility by having to look after their own plant to encourage healthy growth,

Sensory groups continue multiple times per week alongside SEN groups.

Mathematics

Number

- Number recognition/formation assessments will initially be completed to understand chn's level of development.
- The children will practice the cardinal number principle- stopping counting at the correct number by counting seeds, frogs, flowers etc.
- The chn will have opportunities to create their own ABAB and ABBABB etc. patters, as well as an introduction to symmetry, through artwork representing butterflies.
- The chn will practice matching amounts to numbers and the reverse matching numbers to amounts through counting seeds, playing matching puzzles, in the farm shop role-play.
- The chn will explore subitising numbers to up to 3. The chn will be encourage to recognise up to three frogs in the water or 2 butterflies in the grass etc. without needing to count them. Chn will also play blindfold game to encourage this skill.
- Basic 2D shape week will include using shape to draw plants, animals and humans, whilst discussing their properties e.g. corners and sides.

