



# Who Am I?

Big question: Are we all the same?

This half term we are going to learn about our Nursery environment and talk about ourselves and our family. Outside we will observe the beginning of Autumn as the leaves change colour and the days become cooler and darker. What nature treasures

## Family

The love we feel for our families and all the different varieties they come in. No matter what kind of family you have, every family is special in its own unique way. We will talk about our family and who we live with.



## Unique

All children and people are different and our differences are what make us special. Our family is unique and in school we will have opportunities to talk about ourselves, our family and people who are special to us.

The importance of embracing our differences is delivered in a playful way.

## Friends

What can your friends know about you? There are so many things to love about being you. From your fingers and your toes and your smile to your dreams for the future. We will celebrate the everyday situations that form the basis of our children's experiences. We hope to celebrate who they are, build resilience and self-esteem, contributing to positive wellbeing.



## Vocabulary:

**Family** -People who we relate to and live with.

**Autumn** A season when the leaves fall and days become cooler and darker.

**Friends** Someone who you can play with or alongside and be happy with.

**Rules and routines** These ensure that we are all kept happy and safe. They tell us things that we should and should not do.

**Feelings** Something we feel inside, like happy or sad

## Home Learning

### Conversations :

- What do you look like? What do other members of your family look like? Are there any similarities? Are there and differences?
- What is your favourite thing to do at home? What do you like to do in your home?
- Where do you like to go with your family in Doncaster?
- What do you do when you feel





# Autumn

Connect Attempt Explain Apply

Big question: What changes can we see in Autumn?

## Home Learning Conversations:

- The seasons are changing, what can you see?
- What do you notice about the trees on your way to Nursery?
- What do we know about Autumn?

### Weather

In Autumn the days are starting to grow shorter. Each day, it is beginning to get darker and colder. We can get lots of rain in the Autumn.

### Seasons

There are 4 seasons every year. Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn. We have different weather in each season. Outside plants and trees change and grow differently. In some seasons it gets



### Harvest

In the autumn, farmers harvest vegetables. Farmers harvest crops using machinery or by hand.



### Leaves

In Autumn the leaves are usually green and attached to the plant's stem. They take in sunlight for the plant to grow. The colour of the leaves can change before they fall from the trees.



## Vocabulary:

**Weather** what the sky and air is like outside.

**Seasons** times in the year where we have different weather.

**Leaves** trees and plants grow leaves. These change in the autumn.

**Harvest** A time when farmers collect their crops.

**Hibernate** Some animals get ready to hibernate during autumn. This is where they collect food and prepare to sleep through the winter.





# Let's Celebrate!



Big question: What do you celebrate?

In our Autumn term we are going to celebrate a teddies birthday in our 'Role Play' provision by having a teddy bears party, but what else do people celebrate? Let's have a look at Bonfire Night, Diwali, Bonfire Night and Christmas is celebrated.

We will talk about what we would like to receive for Christmas by learning how to make a Christmas present list.



## Bonfire Night

Guy Fawkes Day, also called Bonfire Night, British observance, celebrated on November 5, commemorating the



## Diwali

One of the major religious festival celebration in Hinduism, Jainism, and Sikhism. The name is derived from the Sanskrit term dipavali, meaning "row of lights." The festival generally symbolizes the victory of light over



## Christmas

Christmas is celebrated annually on December 25th and is a religious and secular festival. Learn about the traditions of this holiday.



## Vocabulary

**Diwali** A five day festival celebrated by Hindus.

**Hindu** People that follow the religion Hinduism.

**India** A country in Asia.

**Halloween** is a celebration observed in many countries on 31 October,

**Bonfire Night** A celebration observed on 5 November in the UK

**Christmas** is a celebration in many countries on December 25th

## Home Learning

### Conversations:

What special occasions and events do we celebrate?





# Winter

Connect Explain Attempt Apply

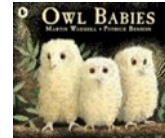
Big question: What changes can we see in Winter?

Last term we learnt about Autumn, but what is the weather like now? In winter we wear warm and woolly clothes. Do you know that if water becomes cold it freezes solid and when it warms it melts?

## Home Learning

### Conversations:

- The seasons are changing, what can you see?
- What animals come out at night? What do owls do in the dark?
- Why do bears hibernate? Do all animals hibernate the same way?



### Nocturnal Animals-

Animals that hunt and are generally active after dark have special adaptations that make it easier to live the night life.

Owls are found in every corner of the world and known for their exceptional vision and hearing.



### Hibernation-Bears

Most hibernating animals lower their body temperatures much further than bears. Many animals also hibernate at different times of the year. That's right, it's not just a winter practice! Some animals hibernate in the summer.

During the winter Bears think of hibernation as a deep sleep, that's not exactly correct. In fact, bears can wake up and move around their dens during this time. That's especially true if they sense danger. Bears have been known to even leave their dens if they become damaged.



## Vocabulary

**Winter** - The coldest season of the year.

**Cold and hot** -High and low temperatures

**Ice** Frozen water

**Melt** When ice warms and turns into liquid

**Dark**-Little or no light

**Bare** -No leaves on the branches

**Nocturnal animals**– Sleep in the day and come out at night.

**Hibernation**– Most commonly occurs during winter months.

# Animals

Connect Explain Attempt Apply

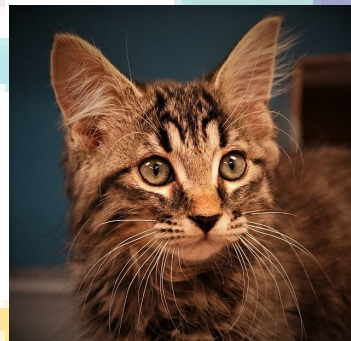
## Vocabulary

### Big question: Why do animals live in different areas?

In the next 5 weeks of our Spring term we aim to provide opportunities for your child to learn more about key animals they are interested in. Learning may focus on exploring the physical aspects of an animal, their habitat, comparing, categorising animals etc

### Home Learning Conversations:

- How to look after their pet?
- Or How would you look after a pet?
- What animals go in a zoo? Why?



#### Domestic animals

Animals that are not wild and kept as a pet or to produce food. These are animals that have been domesticated for human use

#### Wild animals

Animals in their natural state that have not been domesticated are considered 'wild'. This includes non-domestic animals in captivity, whether kept as pets or for other reasons including entertainment, and those living free in the environment. This means elephants and lions kept in zoos or circuses and badgers, foxes and birds are all considered wild animals.

**Pet**-an animal that is kept in the home as a companion and treated affectionately.

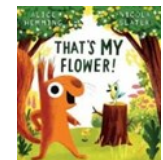
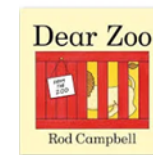
**Tame**-(of an animal) not dangerous or frightened of people.

**Domestic**-Domesticated animals are animals that have been bred and adapted over generations to live alongside humans.

**Zoo**-Most long-established zoos exhibit general collections of wild animals

**Wild**-Wildlife refers to undomesticated animal species, but includes all organisms that grow or live wild in an area without being introduced by humans.

#### *Book coverage based on theme:*





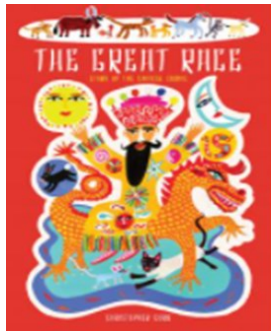
# China

Connect Explain Attempt Apply

## Vocabulary

### Chinese New Year

The Great Race – This tells the story of how the Chinese Zodiac Calendar came about, and the order of the Zodiac animals.



Chinese New Year is the biggest holiday celebrated among Chinese people and is celebrated in many big cities throughout the world. Children get given small red paper packets of coins for good luck!

Chinese New Year is often called the spring festival because it signals the beginning of spring. It is a time when families and friends get together to say goodbye to the old year and welcome in the new year.

Families greet each other by saying “Gong Xi Fa Cai” (pronounced Gong-she-faa-tsai) which means ‘Wishing you a happy, healthy and wealthy New Year!’

The Year of the Dragon 2024 is the ultimate symbol of power, fortune and prosperity in Chinese culture.



**Chinese New Year** - the biggest holiday celebrated among Chinese people and is celebrated in many big cities throughout the world.

**China**- China has the largest population in the world with over 1.3 billion people living there!

**Festival**- a day or period of celebration, often one of religious significance.

**Feast** – A special meal often shared with family and friends. Children enjoy oranges and sweets. Food is very important to New Year's celebrations. Families and friends get

### Possible activities and experiences

Share a Chinese New Year Feast together – oranges, noodles, prawn crackers. Dragon Dancing.

Art – Dragon puppets. Chinese lanterns.



Chopsticks made from wood or plastic are traditionally used for eating.

Dragon dances are very popular! The loud drums and cymbals are said to scare away bad luck!



Lunar New Year Dragon Dance in Vietnam



Lantern Festival in Taiwan





# Traditional Stories

Connect Attempt Explain Apply

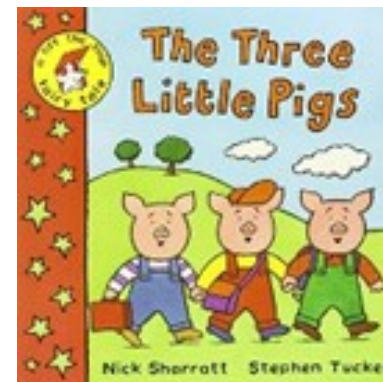
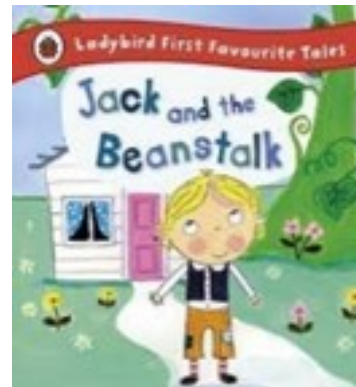
**Big question: Can you tell me a story?**

This term we will be focusing on the area of Literacy and Expressive Arts and Design through our big question.

We will be:

- Reading lots of different traditional stories and learning about the characters that appear in them.
- Joining in with repeated phrases from the stories e.g. run, run as fast as you can. You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man.
- Doing lots of role play and using our imaginations to take on the role of the different characters.
- Explore the behaviour of the characters and talk about if they were good or bad.

It is sure to be a very exciting and fun big question to explore!



## Vocabulary:

**Stories-** follow a sequence of events.

**Traditional Story-**A story that has been retold over many years. Sometimes called a fairy tale.

**Fiction Stories** -that describe imaginary people and events.

**Author-**Books are written by

Authors

**Illustrators** draw pictures in stories.

**Title-**The name of a book is called a Title.

**Character-** A person or animal in a story.

**Setting** Where the story is taking place.

## Home Learning:

To read traditional stories at home.



# Materials and Growing



This term through Science and Maths based activities children will begin:

- Commenting or asking questions about aspects of their familiar world such as the place where they live or the natural world.
- Talking about some of the things they have observed through our weekly challenges.
- Talking about why things happen and how things work.
- Developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time.
- Looking closely at similarities, differences, patterns & change.
- To be interested in and describe the texture of things.
- To notice patterns in the environment
- To use Math's key vocabulary based on height, length, weight and capacity.
- To notice simple shapes and patterns in pictures, environment etc
- To begin to categorise objects according to height and weight
- To use comparative language like 'taller', 'shorter', 'the same.'



## Recycling

Recycling helps reduce pollution and helps to protect our world. We can recycle lots of things at school and at home, like paper, plastic, cardboard and glass.

18th March is Global Recycling Day.

## Weekly Challenges

I wonder....

How can you cross a river?  
(The Gingerbread Man)

Can you run as fast as the gingerbread man?  
(The Gingerbread man)

What materials do the three little pigs use to build their houses?  
(The Three Little Pigs)

Should you talk to strangers?  
(The Three Little Pigs)

Are we all the same size?  
(Jack and the Beanstalk)

How did the Giant get so tall?

(Jack and the