Understand the World- The World

Skills Progression Document

UtW The World	Nursery Skills	 Can talk about some of the things they have observed such as plants, animals, natural and found objects. Talks about why things happen and how things work. Developing an understanding of growth, decay and changes over time. Shows care and concern for living things and the environment. 	Reception Skills	Development Matters 40-60months Looks closely at similarities, differences, patterns and change. Early Learning Goal Children know about similarities and differences in relation to places, objects, materials and living things. They talk about the features of their own immediate environment and how environments might vary from one another. They make observations of animals and plants and explain why some things occur, and talk about changes.
Autumn 1		Outside Learning - water, sand tray Access to a range of natural materials		Topic: We've got the Whole World in Our Hands Sand and water tray Role play area - home corner
Environment		Role play area - home corner Display linked to home interests		Dry food to explore pasta, rice Books from around the world
Activities	To be able to ask/answer questions To make observations	Resources - blocks, Lego, construction etc. Starting with themselves, action rhymes and songs will allow children to build their understanding and vocabulary for describing the main parts of their bodies. Children to explore a sensory area or display the sensory garden set up outdoors for them to investigate. Creative play with malleable materials children should discover, by stretching, squashing, bending or twisting, that some materials can be moulded into different shapes. Key Vocabulary: how, who, what, why,	To be able to ask/answer questions To be able to investigate To be able to make decisions	Where we are from (around the world and Kingston) and what type of house we live in. Food tasting from around the world. Looking at and reading maps from where children are from e.g. finding Italy on the map. Key Vocabulary: how, who, what, why, where, world, map, country, town, house, flat.
What you will see		In exploratory play and through problem solving children should discover the different properties of natural materials sand, water, wood, stone, clay etc.		Using their senses to explore natural and made materials. Through experimenting in a range of structured activities children will learn to use their senses to discriminate between different sounds, tastes, smells and textures.

Autumn 2		Mud Kitchen		Topic: Let's Celebrate
		Large and small-wheeled toys		Materials e.g. fabrics, clay, salt dough,
Environment		Train tracks		Role play area - sari shop/Chinese restaurant
		Wooden blocks		Tyres, loose parts outside, crates, trucks
	To be able to	Mirrors	To be able to experiment	
	explore	Playdough	experiment	
Activities		Children experiment and begin to learn that a push or a pull can make something speed up, slow down or change direction.		Children will be making traditional outfits. Children will use different materials to make Diva lamps and Greek clay pots.
	To be able to sort and group	Children to learn about their features by observing their reflections in mirrors, making comparisons and talking about the visible similarities and differences between themselves and other children e.g. self portraits.	To make comparisons	Children will go on a school trip to visit town Centre (Kingston) looking and exploring their surroundings.
		Key Vocabulary: hard, soft, block, tall, small, push, pull		Key Vocabulary: long, short, same, different, taste, smell, hear, senses.
What you will see		Children will begin to use appropriate vocabulary that relates to forces and exploring this by using ramps, wheels, trucks and cars.		Children will be able to recognise and talk about differences in their environments.
		Children will be able to point out key features of themselves and notice how they look different to others.		Children will be using their knowledge and understanding to talk about different countries, dress, cultures, food and celebrations.
Spring 1		Playdough making		Topic: A Helping Hand Role play - Police station, vets, builders yard
Environment		Real food in role play area		Construction e.g. Lego, blocks
	To be able to describe	Cookbooks	To be able to classify and	Loose Parts - gravel pit
	describe	Role play - home corner e.g. oven, hob	enquire	2000 . d. 10 g. d.o. p

Activities		Cooking in small groups Children will learn from first-hand experiences to observe and describe the changes that occur in some everyday materials when heated or cooled, or when materials are		Children will be building houses using different materials and exploring how to stay safe from a fire. Fire safety linked to materials that burn, waterproof etc.
		mixed e.g. cooking and making playdough. Key Vocabulary: hot, cold, mix, pour, spoon, bowl, roll		Learning about police officers and understanding the law- what is legal, what is illegal?
				Key Vocabulary: burn, waterproof, right, wrong, arrested, hurt, fire, sick.
What you will see		Children will use what they have learnt in key areas within the classroom e.g. using the oven and egg timer.		Communicate their experiences and what they have learned about the properties of the materials, progressing to testing materials, recording
		Using vocabulary based on changes e.g. cooling, too hot, soft, runny (cakes),		observations and measurements accurately. Opportunities to explore and investigate the
				properties of materials from which everyday objects such as toys or clothing are made, and to acquire relevant vocabulary to describe them and begin to link the materials with their uses.
Spring 2		Mirrors		Topic: Let it Grow
Environment		Planter Station		Beans growing
Chanoument		Seeds		Plant Station
		Small world farm, minibeasts, water butt		Nonfiction books
	To be able to solve problems		To be able to record	Caterpillars
	_			Minibeasts
Activities		Observations, investigations and topic work linked to growth.		Activities linked to the life cycles of a butterfly and chick.
		Children will learn about the process of change in animals and plants over a period of time.		Children will each be planting their own beans and observing them grow over time and recording their findings in a bean diary.
		Effects of weather and the seasons.		Children will labelling the basic parts of a plant or
		Planting seeds		flower.

		Key Vocabulary: Leaf, flower, roots, soil, water, rain, sun.		Children will visit The Wetlands Centre where they learn about habitats and how plants and animals grow. Key Vocabulary: Stem, leaf, roots, petal, chrysalis, egg, sunlight, air, water, bean, diary.
What you will see		Practical activities such as digging, planting, and looking after seeds and observing their growth, will lead to knowledge of parts of a plant as well as understanding that plants are living things that need water to grow.		Children learning about other living creatures and sort and classify them according to their own or agreed criteria.
		Children will be given the opportunity to plant seeds and watch them grow.		Building on earlier experiences children should be able to carry out investigations and make predictions about the best conditions for growing seeds.
				As their skills develop children should be able to record the data from their investigations using tables, charts, graphs, pictorial representations and ICT as appropriate.
Summer 1		Bug hotel		Topic: Fairy Tales
Environment		Minibeast hunt equipment		Role play - Giants castle, beanstalk, Aladdin's cave
		Clipboards		Oats and water, microwave, mixing
		Non-fiction books		Construction - chairs, beds linked to Goldilocks and the Three Bears
		Wild area		
Activities	To be able to compare	Children will go on a minibeast hunt in various places around the school.	To be able to predict & test	Children will attempt to build their houses for the Three Pigs made out of straw, bricks, wood.
		Children will be drawing and labelling mini-beasts they found or their favourite.		Predicting and testing strength of materials e.g. fan to blow down the houses.
		Children will use different materials such as clay to make their own mini-beasts.		Using junk modelling to construct castles, houses, towers looking at how strong/weak they are.

		Children will look at various habitats and have a go a building their own using different materials. Key Vocabulary: Home/habitat, wood, clay, build, leg, head, eyes,		Key Vocabulary: Strong, weak, materials, test, guess/predict,
What you will see		Through using magnifiers and observing other living things such as minibeasts collected in the local environment.		As they become more sophisticated in their investigations children should be able to recognise the conditions for a fair test.
		Children recording and making observations about the growth and changes of plants and other living things.		
Summer 2		Water based play - floating and sinking, sea creatures living in the water		Topic: Under the Sea
Environment		Outdoor sand area - mixing sand and water		Role play – aquarium, bird watching station, fishing pond
		Junk modelling - building boats		Binoculars
		Beach themes		Sea Creatures
			To be able to Evaluate	Water tray
Activities		Children will look at what you might wear at the beach? Sorting a range of clothing and objects.		Fishing Children will be creating a deep sea diver log full of different sea creature facts.
		Children will be thinking, discussing and recording what you will see at the beach.		Investigating different sea creatures -learning facts.
		Children will be exploring the wild area pond linked to life cycles.	To be able to reflect	Learning about different materials in the sea and how they affect the sea life.
	To be able to predict	Children in Nursery, will be going on a trip to the Community Garden. This is where they will look at habitats		Investigating how we can be Eco friendly to help our World.
	predict	of animals and different types of plants and flowers. Key Vocabulary: sea, sand, swimming, sun, hat, fish,		Children to make their own boats - looking at floating and sinking.
		waves.		Key Vocabulary: float, sink, land, sea, safe, fact,

What you	As they progress children should observe and make	Making boats float or sink and evaluating success
will see	comparisons between humans and other animals. They	
	should discover that animals, including humans, move, need	Language linked to evaluating and reflecting
	food and water, as well as grow and reproduce.	
		Outdoor learning will provide children with knowledge
		of conservation and sustainability (under the
		sea/environment)