

## Our Wonderful World



At New Valley, we value the importance of children learning about the world around them. We want our pupils to experience awe and wonder daily, developing curiosity, questions and stimulate the thirst for knowledge.

Spring term encourages children to understand how and why they need to look after the environment around them and the animals that live there. They will learn about their wider world and have exciting learning opportunities to find out about new places!

Learning will include:

- Animals and environments around the world – exploring similarities and differences.
- Weather and climates
- Exploring world maps and travel

We will cover two topics:

Amazing Animals! (Term 1)    The Rainforest (Term 2)



These are the **Prime Areas** within the Early Years Curriculum:

### Communication and Language:

The development of children's spoken language underpins all seven areas of learning and development.

This term we will be:

- Understand how to listen carefully and why listening is important.
- Listening carefully so that we can ask good questions using how and why.
- Retelling a story with story language
- Describing events in some detail
- Learning rhymes, poems and songs.
- Using connectives to join our ideas, e.g. because/ and



### Physical Development:

Physical activity is vital in children's all-round development, enabling them to pursue happy, healthy and active lives.

This term we will be:

- Playing both indoors and outdoors to help develop our core strength, stability, balance, spatial awareness, co-ordination and agility.
- Developing our fine motor skills through small world activities, puzzles, arts and crafts and using small tools.
- Developing our gross motor skills through play, games and using the larger equipment, such as the climbing frame and the bikes/ scooters.
- We will be exploring dance in some of our PE lessons.

**PE will be on a Tuesday and Friday. Please come to school wearing your PE kit.**



### Personal, Social and Emotional Development:

Children's personal, social and emotional development (PSED) is crucial for children to lead healthy and happy lives. Underpinning their personal development are the important attachments that shape their social world.

This term we will be:

- Persevering with challenges and working towards our own goals
- Using kind words to encourage other people
- Knowing what it means to feel proud of myself.
- Being friendly and inclusive so that my friends don't feel lonely.
- Thinking of ways to solve problems and stay friends.
- Know how to be a good friend.



# Our Wonderful World



These are the **Specific Areas** within the Early Years curriculum and create a foundation for the National Curriculum for KS1 and beyond.

## Literacy:

### Reading

It is crucial for children to develop a life-long love of reading.

#### This term we will be:

- Sequencing familiar stories, retelling through role play and creating our own story maps
- Reading simple phrases and sentences made up of words with known sounds and tricky words.
- Re-read books to build up confidence in word reading and fluency.
- Engaging in conversations about stories and learning/ applying new vocabulary.
- Exploring non-fiction books that support our topic.

As a school we use the phonics scheme Little Wandle Letters and Sounds. Please practise the daily sound that gets sent home.



## Literacy:

### Writing

It is important that children develop positive attitudes to writing throughout their early years. Writing may show random marks, squiggles, wavy lines across the page and will develop into recognisable shapes and letters.

#### This term we will be:

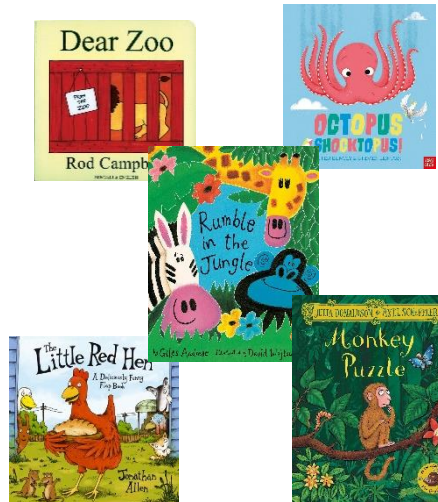
- Writing some tricky words.
- Writing CVC words to label pictures.
- Writing simple labels and captions.
- Guided writing to create short sentences about animals.
- Create story maps with labels.

## Understanding the World:

Understanding the world involves guiding children to make sense of their physical world and their community.

#### This term we will be:

- Comparing animals from different places.
- Learning about farm animals, zoo animals, wild animals and under water animals.
- Learn the names of familiar animals and their body parts.
- Making sense of different environments and habitats.
- Discussing how we can take care of our world and the animals that live in it.
- Observe changes in the weather.
- Exploring local and world maps, using navigational language.



Some of the key texts this term:

## Maths:

Developing a strong grounding in number is essential so that all children develop the necessary building blocks to count confidently and understand the relationships between numbers and the patterns within them.

#### This term we will be:

- Exploring numbers to 10– looking at the patterns within the number and being able to subitise quickly.
- Learning number rhymes and songs.
- Developing our 1:1 correspondence
- Linking numerals to the related quantities
- Explore the concepts of wholes and parts.
- Using the language of comparison, including 'more than' and 'fewer than'
- Exploring symmetrical patterns, linking to doubles.
- Continue to develop verbal counting to 20 and beyond.



## Expressive Arts and Design:

The development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity.

#### This term we will be:

- Joining in with songs and exploring musical instruments.
- Joining in with role play activities
- Building models using construction equipment – designing and making homes for hibernating animals.
- Using different materials and textures
- Looking at Henri Rousseau's Tiger artwork.
- Making animal masks.

