What children will learn / revise / revisit / rehearse during

Amazing Animals

Personal, Social & Emotional Development (PSED)

This half term, we are focusing on helping your child feel confident, caring, and independent. Here is what we'll be learning together:

Making Friends: Building positive relationships with peers and adults.

Self-Confidence: Knowing they are valued and celebrating what makes them special.

Understanding Feelings: Expressing their emotions and caring for others.

Independence: Practicing daily self-care and personal hygiene.

Communication & Language

This half term, we have a strong focus on **oracy**–nurturing children's speaking, listening, and vocabulary skills through rich conversations, stories, and play.

New Words: Using theme vocabulary during role-play, building, and creative play.

Active Listening: Learning how to listen carefully and understanding why it matters.

Sharing Ideas: Asking questions to find out more and sharing their own thoughts and opinions.

Physical Development

This half term, we are continuing to build strong bodies by developing both our fine and gross motor skills!

Fine Motor Control: Strengthening small hand muscles to improve pencil grip for drawing and writing, as well as using scissors accurately.

Big Movements: Practicing and refining core movement skills like running, jumping, hopping, and skipping to build balance and coordination.

Spatial Awareness: Learning to move safely and confidently in shared spaces while staying aware of others around us.

Literacy

This half term, we are continuing to enjoy stories, learn exciting new vocabulary, and develop a lifelong love of reading and writing!

Phonics (Read Write Inc.): Continuing Set 1 sounds–focusing on recognising initial sounds, blending sounds to read words, and segmenting sounds to spell.

Early Writing: Practicing writing names, writing familiar words, and beginning to write simple labels.

Letter Formation: Learning to form letters correctly using our RWI memory rhymes.

This half term, our focus is on building **maths fluency and mastery**–helping children develop a deep, confident understanding of numbers and how they work, rather than just counting to big numbers!

Exploring Numbers (0, 5 & 6): Introducing zero, 5, and 6, exploring what they look like, and understanding the "how-manyness" of each amount.

Deep Number Sense: Building practical confidence across key early maths skills:

Counting & Cardinality: Knowing that the last number counted tells us the total.

Comparing & Composing: Spotting *more than* or *fewer than*, and seeing how numbers are made up (e.g., 5 is made of 3 and 2).

Patterns, Shapes & Measures: Spotting repeating patterns, exploring 2D shapes, and comparing sizes, weights, and lengths in play.

Understanding the World

This Autumn 2, we are stepping outdoors to investigate the world around us, exploring seasonal changes and discovering how local wildlife prepares for winter!

Changing Seasons: Observing the shift from Autumn into Winter and noticing changes in the weather, trees, and daylight.

Local Wildlife: Discovering the animals that live in our local environment, parks, and woods.

Winter Prep & Hibernation: Learning how animals prepare for the cold weather and what hibernation really means.

Day & Night (Nocturnal Animals): Exploring daytime vs. night-time and comparing animals that are awake during the day with nocturnal creatures.

Animal Homes: Investigating different habitats and finding out how animals build homes to stay safe and warm.

Expressive Arts & Design

This half term, we are nurturing children's imagination, musicality, and creative design skills through hands-on building, storytelling, and group music-making!

Singing & Music: Singing together in groups, building confidence to match pitch and follow simple melodies.

Imaginative Role Play: Collaborating with friends to invent pretend storylines, characters, and scenarios in our classroom play spaces.

Open-Ended Exploration: Using small-world toys and construction materials to spark creativity and boost imaginative confidence.

Purposeful Building & Design: Selecting colors, tools, and techniques to build with a plan–discussing what they are making and thinking about how to adapt or improve it.

Learning Through Play & Supporting Every Unique Child

Alongside our half-termly themes, children will always have plenty of time to learn through play and explore their own unique interests.

Indoor & Outdoor Provision: We offer open-ended learning opportunities across all areas of the curriculum, both inside the classroom and out in the fresh air.

High-Quality Interactions: By getting to know every child as an individual, our staff use adaptive teaching and thoughtful questioning to stretch and support their learning.

Individual Progress: Every child is nurtured to build confidence, make progress, and learn at a pace that is just right for them.

Exposure to new vocabulary

Key Vocabulary

Teamwork Responsibility Respect Creativity Truthfulness Compassion Perseverance Friendship

Be Safe Be Respectful Be Ready

Sharing Taking it in turns

Autumn Winter Seasons Change

Animals Habitats Environment Nocturnal Hibernation

Homes Night Day Differences

At the end of this theme children should be able to answer the following questions:

What is hibernation?

Are we nocturnal?

What might we wear in the winter?