Remember, any sticky notes that you can send in to let us know about our child's experiences and achievements, will be much appreciated. We would also love to see anything the children have to show from the activities they have been involved in related to our topics.



Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Over the course of the term we will continue to develop positive learning habits. We will be supporting children to enable them to take turns, share and make the right choices of behaviour, so that their interactions with each other will be rewarding. Children will be encouraged to show they can act in a more independent and responsible manner. We will also be looking for ways that concern and respect for others and for the environment can be demonstrated.

Our SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) themes for the term are *Relationships* and *Changes*.

Helping at home

. Take it in turns to talk about special times that have been shared together and why they were special.

. When sharing books talk about how characters feel about any changes in their lives e.g. the birth of a baby, a lost toy, a house move.



Communication and Language

Throughout the term we will be enjoying a range of books and will focus on traditional stories, patterned texts and books that recount experiences. Children will be retelling and sequencing stories and recounting their own experiences. Opportunities for spoken language will encourage the use of more complex sentences. We want children to become more confident about responding to the ideas of others and answering questions that enquire 'how' and 'why'.

Helping at home

. Encourage your child to recount an experience, trip or event to a member of the family or a friend. A trip to an area to see wildlife would tie in with our topic.

. Give your child a sequence of instructions to follow e.g. 'First …, next … and after that….' Gradually make them more complex.



Physical Development

The children will continue to be involved in daily physical activity sessions and opportunities indoors and out will be utilised to develop gross and fine motor skills. We want the children to gain added confidence, control and coordination in movements. They will be making use of tools (including pencils for writing), objects, construction and malleable materials with increasing control, to develop their effective use. We will also be helping children to recognise the importance of keeping healthy and those things that contribute to it, such as a healthy diet, sun safety and a good night's sleep.

Helping at home

. Talk about things that contribute to staying healthy in relation to sun safety e.g. awareness of the sun, sun protection and keeping hydrated.

. Construct an obstacle course with your child, for your child to move around. It could be set up inside the house or in a garden.

Literacy

As the children increase their phonic knowledge they will be encouraged to apply it to read and spell more words for themselves. We will find meaningful contexts which inspire children to write simple sentences. We will want children to demonstrate their understanding of what they have read and extend their vocabulary and forms of speech, through their experience of books.

Helping at home

. Encourage your child to read non-fiction books about creatures of interest.

. Involve your child in writing information cards about creatures.

Mathematics

The children will continue to work on writing, ordering, counting and comparing to 20 and beyond. They will be observing shapes and patterns in the environment developing their mathematical vocabulary related to shape and the measurement of length, quantities and time. They will be encouraged to use their mathematical ideas and methods to solve practical problems, including problems involving addition, subtraction, doubling, halving and sharing. The children will also explore ways to organise and record information.

Helping at home

. Talk about different times of the day and what happens then e.g. 'At midday we'll have lunch'. Take a look at a bus or train timetable to see what information they give about dates, days and times.

. Find opportunities to talk about and investigate how one object, or a group of objects can be shared out e.g. a pizza or slices of apple.



Understanding the World

Children will be helped to gain a sense of belonging to a community and place. We will continue to provide opportunities for children to explore similarities, differences and pattern in their environment, encouraging their explanations and questions. In ICT the children will be using computers to gain the skills involved in word processing, creating pictures and handling data. They will be finding out about and identifying the uses of everyday technology and making use of programmable toys.

Helping at home

. Involve your child in reducing, reusing and recycling waste.

. Challenge your child to spot landmarks/features on a journey through Newton Poppleford to Sidmouth. You could mention such things as road signs, road names and significant buildings.

. Visit such habitats as the rock pools at Jacob's ladder and the Axe Estuary Wetlands, they are great places for adventures and wild things!

Expressive Arts and Design

During the term the children will be encouraged to find ways to express and communicate their ideas, thoughts and feelings. Opportunities will be provided for children to gain confidence in representing their own ideas in 2D and 3D, through the use of a variety of media, materials, tools and techniques. Through music and dance we will be recognising repeated sounds and sound patterns. We will be eliciting the children's responses to music and adding to their repertoire of rhyme and songs.

Helping at home

. Provide card for your child to draw pictures on, to create postcards, ones of places visited on a trip in the locality. They can be used as a resource to make use of for purposeful writing.

. Listen to different pieces of music and ask your child what they think and feel about them.