



DT Curriculum 2025/26

Nursery						
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic	All about Me and Autumn	Traditional Tales	Vehicles, materials and people who help us	Growing and Changing	Under the Sea, holidays and pirates	Animals and Habitats
Structures	Manipulate and play with different materials. Fit themselves into spaces, like funnels dens and large boxes and move around in them.		Use their imagination as they consider what they can do with different materials. Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Enjoy moving when outdoors and inside. Build independently with range of appropriate resources.		Develop manipulation and control. Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them. Explore different materials and tools. Make simple models which express their ideas.	
	Know about different resources we can use to attach items together – masking tape, glue sticks and PVA Know how to use a glue stick and put the lid back on Know how to hold scissors					
	Key focus - Outdoor Dens Know how to build with different resources Know how to lift and carry different items of outdoor equipment Know how to fit items together or attach covers/tarpaulins etc				Key focus - Sandcastles Know how to use sand tools of different shapes and sizes	
Textiles	Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make.		Explore different materials and tools. Develop manipulation and control. Use one handed tools and equipment – making snips in paper with scissors		Explore different materials, using all their senses to investigate them. Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Use one handed tools and equipment – making snips in paper with scissors	



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		<p>Key focus - Paper Weaving Know how to use a pincer grip to manipulate small items Know how to thread eg beads onto string Know how to manipulate pre-cut paper strips through card</p>				<p>Key focus - Collage farm animals Know how to hold scissors Know how to make snips with scissors, and then longer cuts Know how to use a glue stick and put the lid back on/PVA glue and glue spreaders Know how to cut around things, not just in a straight line Know that there are different materials for making things eg crepe paper, foil, fur fabric, cotton wool, card, vivelle....</p>
Mechanical Systems	<p>Explore different materials and tools. Explore how things work. Develop manipulation and control.</p>					
			<p>Key focus - Exploring emergency vehicles/how they work Know how something works Know that a vehicle moves using wheels</p>			



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Electrical Systems	Beebots – linked to maps Summer 1 Repeat actions that have an effect. Explore how things work.					
					Key focus - Beebots Know that some things work because they have batteries inside	
Food Technology	Eat finger food and develop likes and dislikes. Show an increasing desire to be independent, such as wanting to feed themselves.		Try a wider range of foods with different tastes and textures. Show an increasing desire to be independent, such as wanting to feed themselves.		Try a wider range of foods with different tastes and textures. Make healthy choices about food, drink, activity and toothbrushing.	
		Key Focus: Baking Gingerbread Know that some foods are good for us (healthy) and some foods are not (unhealthy)				Key Focus: Healthy/unhealthy food(Hungry Caterpillar) Know that it is ok to try new things and sometimes we like them and sometimes we don't
Vocab	Strong, stable, secure, attach, safe, safety, build, construct. Tools, spade, rake, fork, shovel, scoop, bucket, container, shape, size. Thread, push, pull, weave. Collage, fabric, material, crepe paper, foil, fur, cotton, card, paper. Movement, wheels, control, forwards, backwards, direction, batteries. Healthy, unhealthy, taste, flavour.					



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Reception						
	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Topic	My World	Celebrations	The world around me	Growing and Changing	Under the Sea	Animals and Habitats
Structures	Return to and build on their previous learning, refining ideas and developing their ability to represent them. Make simple models which express their ideas.		Explore, use and refine a variety of artistic effects to express their ideas and feelings. Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently– pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons.		Safely use and explore a variety of materials, tools and techniques, experimenting with colour, design, texture, form and function. Share their creations, explaining the process they have used. Create collaboratively sharing ideas, resources and skills.	
			Key Focus: Bird Feeders Know how to select an idea from several suggestions Know how to combine resources to make a hanging bird feeder Know how to thread, bend and twist pipe-cleaners or use spoons to hollow out apple cores		Key Focus: Lighthouses Know which resources to use for their lighthouse plan Know how to select the correct joining agent – e.g sellotape, PVA, scissors, string Know how to explain what they have done	



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Textiles	Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently – pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons	Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently – pencils for drawing and writing, paintbrushes, scissors, knives, forks and spoons.	Join different materials and explore different textures. Choose the right resources to carry out their own plan. Use a range of small tools, including scissors, paint brushes and cutlery.			
						Key Focus: Felt hedgehogs Know how to use a pincer grip to use a needle Know how to make single stitches through fabric
Mechanical Systems	Explore how things work					
	Key Focus: Vehicles Know about different vehicles we use to travel around – buses, trains, cars Know that these vehicles work because they have an engine and wheels Know how to manipulate small construction resources to build a vehicle					



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Electrical Systems		Explore and talk about different forces they can feel.	Explore how things work. Talk about the different forces they can feel. Talk about the differences between materials and changes they notice.
			Collections of toys – pushes/pulls- jack in a box, baby pop up toys etc Key Focus: Lighthouses Know that a battery is a source of electricity Know that an electrical circuit can make light
Food Technology	Try a wider range of foods with different tastes and textures Know and talk about the different factors that support their overall health and wellbeing: regular physical activity, healthy eating , toothbrushing, sensible amounts of screen time, having a good sleep routine, being a safe pedestrian.	Manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing, going to the toilet and understanding the importance of healthy food choices .	Continue to manage their own basic hygiene and personal needs, including dressing, going to the toilet and understanding the importance of healthy food choices .
	Key Focus: Making Bread (linked to Harvest) Know that bread needs yeast to rise Know that all breads are made from a dough Know how to knead and stretch bread dough Know that bread must be baked		Key Focus: Fruit and Vegetable kebabs Know that fruit and vegetables are healthy foods Know that 5 a day is recommended for good health Know that we need a balance of foods to be healthy



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Construction	Explore different materials freely, in order to develop their ideas about how to use them and what to make. Join different materials and explore different textures. Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently		Develop their own ideas and then decide which materials to use to express them. Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently		Create collaboratively sharing ideas, resources and skills. Develop their small motor skills so that they can use a range of tools competently	
		Key focus: Clay Diva Lamps Know that clay is a natural building material and that it is strong. Know how to mould a ball of clay and with guidance create a basic thumb pot Know how to shape clay by smoothing and adding water with the finger tips				
Vocab	PVA glue, glue stick, Sellotape, attach, join, apply, masking tape Dough, yeast, knead, stretch, bake, rise Vehicle, construct, build, create, movement,	Clay, mould, ball, shape, sphere, smooth	Explain, Resources, select, bend, twist, attach, explain, decide, string.	Fruit, vegetable, 5-a-day, healthy, unhealthy	Electricity, light, battery, wires, bulb	Needle, thread, stitch, felt, texture, knot