

Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum Guide for Parents September 2021 – July 2022

We follow The Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage (EYFS) which came into effect as of September 2021. This framework is a means of ensuring high standards of early education and care that will reassure parents that their child's development is being fully supported.

The first stage of the EYFS curriculum begins at Meriden CE Primary School when children enter Nursery (FS1 – Foundation Stage 1) and continues until the end of Reception (FS2 – Foundation Stage 2). The EYFS underpins all future learning by supporting and fostering the children's personal, social and emotional wellbeing. It encourages positive attitudes and dispositions towards learning in the children and promotes learning through play.

The Early Years Foundation Stage is divided into the following areas of learning:

Prime Areas

Communication and Language

- Listening, Attention and Understanding
- Speaking

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Self-Regulation
- Managing Self
- Building Relationships

Physical Development

- Gross Motor Skills
- Fine Motor Skills

Specific areas

Literacy

- Comprehension
- Word Reading
- Writing

Mathematics

- Number
- Numerical Patterns

Understanding the World

- Past and Present
- People, Culture and Communities
- The Natural World

Expressive Arts and Design

- Creating with Materials
- Being Imaginative and Expressive

During the EYFS these areas of learning are covered through a variety of topics, which are listed below. Much emphasis is put on cross-curricular activities so one activity is likely to cover a range of learning. For example children building with bricks may

cooperate together to carry the bricks, the children might negotiate the best place to put them and compare the size of different bricks. Therefore, they may be developing language, mathematical, physical, personal and social competencies through this one activity.

We plan our curriculum by providing a starting interest for children and then the weeks activities develop in line with children’s progress and interests. We use observations of children’s learning and achievements to inform planning. Planning is differentiated throughout our Early Years and activities are planned to aid smooth transitions, continuity and progression. Curriculum planning is continually monitored for quality, relevance and effectiveness. Planning meetings take place to discuss and evaluate teaching objectives and outcomes and this is then fed into future planning.

Topics for the Early Years Foundation Stage

Autumn Term 1 topic – Me and my family	
Birthdays	To begin the Autumn term we think about our birthdays then talk about and draw our families. From this we explore our new beginnings in school and learn about the people in our class as we develop new
Our Families	
Ourselves	
Our School	

Grace and Family	<p>friendships. We build on self-confidence as we get to know each other and understand how to manage our feelings and behaviour in the school environment. Then we look at different families in stories through the book of 'Grace and Family' by Mary Hoffman before exploring 'The Large Family' books by Jill Murphy.</p> <p>Through the setting of Grace and Family we will begin to realise that there are different countries in the world with different natural features to our environment.</p>
The Large Family	

Autumn Term 2 Topic – Autumn and Celebrations	
Bonfire night & Diwali	<p>After half term it's Diwali time! When we learn about the Hindu festival of lights and explore different crafts associated with this festival. We also learn about fire safety and create wonderful collages based on fireworks observed.</p>
Percy the Park Keeper	
The Little Red Hen	<p>As the season progresses we go on an Autumn Walk around the school grounds, wrapping up warm and putting on Wellington boots to go stomping through the fallen leaves and learning about all of the fruits of the season. Percy the park</p>
The Nativity	
Christmas crafts	

	<p>keeper books are a wonderful introduction to exploring the seasons and the natural world around us as well as all of the different jobs people do to help us.</p> <p>Then we read 'The Little Red Hen' when we look at corn and wheat and bake our own bread before throwing ourselves into Christmas! First we learn about the Nativity Story and then we create some precious Christmas keepsake crafts for you to treasure for years to come.</p>
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Spring Term 1 Topic – Teddy Bear Tales	
Thank you's and reflection	<p>To start the Spring Term off we reflect on all of our Christmas experiences. As well as sharing our tales of presents we received we recall other things like what we left out for Santa and meals with our families, before writing thank you letters.</p> <p>During the Spring term our weeks are themed around famous stories about bears. First we learn about the story of Whatever Next! By Jill Murphy, where we learn to act out stories by making our own props out of objects as baby bear did with a box and a colander. Through this story we make rockets for bears from boxes and other</p>
Whatever Next!	
Chinese New Year	
We're Going on a Bear Hunt	

	<p>construction materials, draw bears, role play the story, pack a picnic writing a list of items needed, we make split pin bears, create owls out of play dough or junk modelling, journey to the moon on space hoppers and begin to understand which materials are waterproof and why.</p> <p>We take a break from bears briefly to celebrate Chinese New Year which falls on 1st February 2022. This is a wonderful topic which enables children to begin to understand and respect each others different beliefs and customs. We explore some of the stories, music, crafts and traditions around Chinese New Year and sample a variety of foods.</p> <p>The Next story we look at is 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen and you can only imagine all of the fun and mess we are going to enjoy through this topic!</p>
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Spring Term 2 Topic – Water	
The Rainbow Fish	We start the second half of term by learning about friendships and sharing through the story of 'The Rainbow Fish' by Marcus Pfister.
Mothers' Day	Next we celebrate our mums and all

Noah's Ark	<p>that they do for us by learning some songs and creating an assembly, which you will all be invited to watch.</p> <p>After that we will learn about the story of 'Noah's Ark' where we will enjoy looking at the many different animals in our world, how to count in twos of course, floating and sinking and mixing colours to make all of the colours of the rainbow. During these two weeks we will be learning about other stories from our Children's Bible which gives age appropriate illustrations and explanations of some of the stories of Jesus as well as the Easter story. We then naturally move onto learning about springtime and Easter where we constantly teach the children that Easter is a time to celebrate Jesus's new life in heaven and the new life that spring brings, explaining that this is why we have eggs at this time of year as they are a symbol of new life.</p>
Easter	

Summer Term 1 Topic – Traditional Tales	
The Enormous Watermelon/Handa's Surprise	<p>Our summer term topic of traditional tales starts with the Enormous Water Melon by Brenda Parkes and Judith Mary Davy. We will be doing all kinds of size and weight ordering for this,</p>
Jack and the	

Beanstalk	<p>as you can imagine, as well as fruit tasting and lots of watermelon themed art work! Then we will delve into the world of Jack and the Beanstalk where we will be looking at and growing all kinds of seeds, not to mention creating our own versions of the story. After that we will be focusing on healthy eating and being active in sports week. After half term, to complete the unit, we will focus on the story of The Three Little Pigs where we will be learning about materials as well as making items to sell in our school Enterprise week.</p>
Sports Week	
The Three Little Pigs & Enterprise Week	

Summer Term 2 Topic – Mini beasts	
Caterpillars –The hungry Caterpillar	<p>For our final half term together we will be looking at mini beasts. To start our topic off we will go and visit lots of different mini beasts, in real life, at The Stratford Butterfly Farm. Each week we will have a focus story about a different type of mini beast. These stories will provide the basis for us looking at and learning about different mini beasts, their life cycles and their habitats. We will be moving like the beasts, building homes for them, caring for them, and in some</p>
Spiders – The very Busy Spider	
Butterflies – Butterfly Kiss	
Ladybirds –The Bad-tempered Ladybird	

Snails - The Snail and the Whale	cases watching their metamorphosis into adults. We will also enjoy the stories in the books, create our own tales as well as different and varied arts and crafts on the mini beast theme. The final book has been chosen to open the discussion about visiting different parts of the world as I'm sure some of us are lucky enough to be planning trips in our holiday.
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Please see our class page on the school website for details of what is happening in Foundation Stage each week. [Foundation Stage | Meriden CE Primary \(meridenceprimaryschool.com\)](https://www.meridenceprimaryschool.com)

Assessment in Nursery is done in line with the 'Development Matters 2020' for 3 to 4 year olds and in Reception the statements for 'Children in Reception' also from Development Matters 2020 are also followed. Click on the links on our Foundation Stage page of the website to read these statements in detail. Staff play with and observe the children with these statements in mind so these statements guide the interactions we have with each child and support staff to ensure progress is made. If parents would like to discuss their child's progress they can request to do this at any time, not only at the formal parents' evenings held twice a year. A formal report about each child's progress is issued to parents at the end of the Autumn, Spring and Summer Terms.

For more information about EYFS you can look on the following website <https://www.gov.uk/early-years-foundation-stage>

If you would like any further information about the curriculum in the EYFS, please do not hesitate to ask a member of the EYFS staff.

Please see the page below for weekly topic information.

Here is our Long term plan of the topics we have chosen to enable us to cover all of the EYFS curriculum.

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
2021-2022 Topics	Me and my family	Autumn and Celebrations	Teddy Bear Tales	Water	Traditional Tales	Mini beasts
Units:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birthdays • Our Families • Ourselves • Our school • Grace and family • The 'Large' Family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bonfire Night • Diwali • Percy the park keeper • Little Red Hen • The Nativity • Christmas crafts/songs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thank you's and reflection • 'Whatever Next' • Chinese New Year • 'Bear Hunt' 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'The Rainbow Fish' • Mothers' Day • Noah's Ark • Easter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Enormous Watermelon/Handa's Surprise • Jack and the Beanstalk • Sports Week (Half Term) • The Three Little Pigs & Enterprise week. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caterpillars • Spiders • Butterflies • Ladybirds • Snails
2022-2023 Topics	Colour	Autumn and Celebrations	Nursery Rhymes	Animals	Traditional Tales	Holidays

Units:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition weeks (Birthdays , Ourselves , School) • Red Blanket • Mixed Up Chameleon • Elmer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire safety • Diwali • Autumn through Percy • The Nativity • Christmas crafts & Songs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sing a song of Sixpence, • Hey diddle, diddle • Chinese New Year • Mary, Mary, quite contrary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm animals (including visit) • Animals from hot and cold climates • Mothers' Day and performance • Easter & Spring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Three Billy Goats Gruff • The Gingerbread Man • Sports week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Gumpy's Outing • Lighthouse Keepers lunch • Seaside information book by Barnaby Bear
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