



**Amazing Animals
Foundation 1
Spring Term**

Topic Overview

Throughout the Spring term, staff will continue to help children with their learning experiences by carefully observing their interests and planning activities that help develop their understanding. Our focus will be 'Amazing Animals' and we will find out what amazing animals live in our world. The children will share what they know about animal names and talk about where we might find these animals, we will cover a range of the children's favourite animals, looking at a different type of animal each week. We will spend some time finding out about the children's pets and say which ones we would like to have. This topic allows for lots of fun with polar, jungle and zoo animals.

English

Reading: Children will be involved in whole class sharing of different animals songs and read exciting animal stories to capture their attention. We will learn new vocabulary, repetitive phrases and key concepts about print when we share the texts: 'Giraffes Can't Dance, The Tiger Who came to Tea, We're Going on a Bear Hunt and Dear Zoo'. The children will be taught phonics using Letters and Sounds.

Writing: We will write our names with different media and materials and develop a comfortable pencil grip ready for initial letter formations. We will carry out lots of gross motor activities throughout the week to support this area of learning and build up our muscle strength for writing.

Maths

We will teach children to quickly identify groups of 3 and recite numbers past 5. We will say one number for each item in order and know that the last number reached when counting a small set, tells you how many there are in total. We will begin to link numerals and amounts and use the Number blocks to help support our understanding of each number. Children will show number fingers, compare quantities and experiment with their own marks. We will understand position through words, explore 2D and 3D shapes and look at animal patterns and similarities.

Understanding the World

Children will think about seasonal changes and care for our class pet 'Barry the Snail'. We will explore animal habitats and look at life cycles. We will talk about forces and different materials using all their senses and encouraged to use some scientific vocabulary (melting, sinking and floating).

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will show resilience and perseverance in the face of challenge. Children will build constructive and respectful relationships. We will help children to express their feelings in an assertive manner and begin to explore situations from different points of view.

Communication and language

Children will continue to be encouraged to listen carefully, learn new vocabulary and respond to open ended questions such as I wonder what would happen if ? We will encourage children to articulate their ideas and thoughts in well-formed sentences using a range of connectives.

Expressive Arts and Design

We will take part in pretend play and develop animal themes using small world and role play equipment. The children will sing entire animal themed songs and mark the pulse of songs. We will explore different materials and media including bubble and scratch printing. The children will draw and make models to represent their ideas about animals. We will colour mix.

Physical Development

Children will develop their movement, balancing, riding and ball skills. We will hold a pose, climb up apparatus and take part in large-muscle movement activities such as *Flipper Flappers*. The children will use one-handed tools and equipment and develop a comfy pencil grip with hand dominance and control.

**PSHE
(Jigsaw)**

We will have circle time sessions to help children talk about their dreams and goals and what can they do to keep healthy. This will include healthy eating, regular exercise and tooth brushing on a daily basis. We will continue to develop an understanding of others and ourselves.

